



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

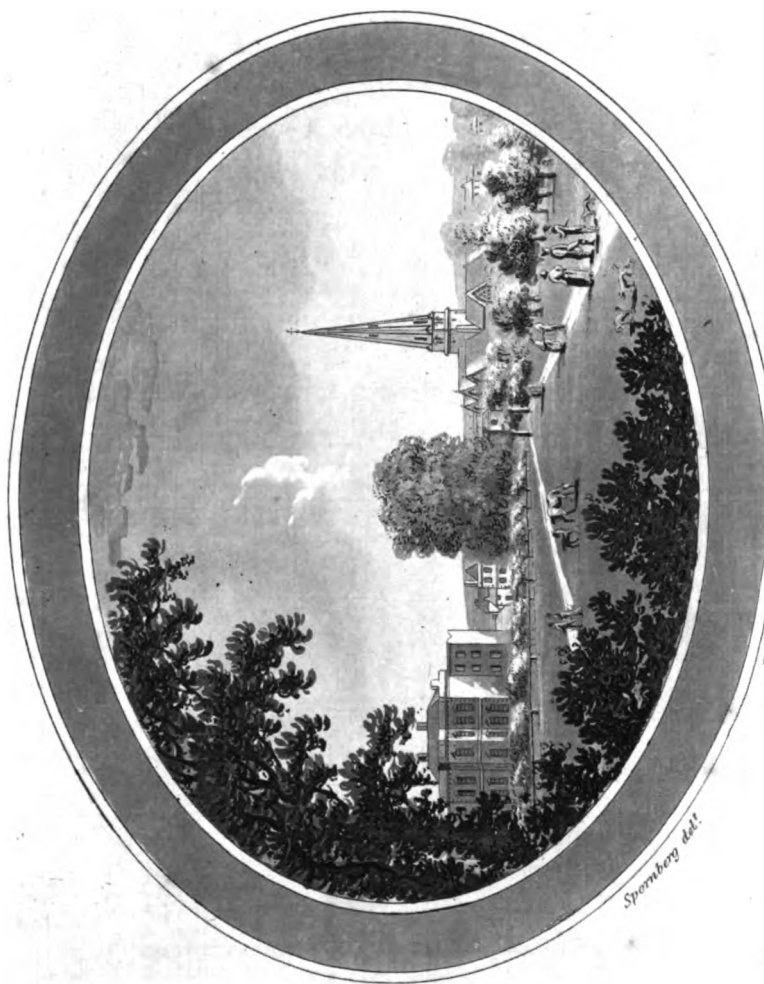
About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>

Gloucester 4' 23
(8 21)

30

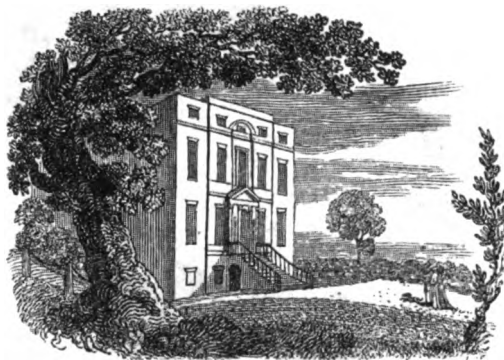
30



Spornberg del.

Published for Ruffs History of Cheltenham.

THE
History of Cheltenham
AND ITS
ENVIRONS:
INCLUDING AN INQUIRY INTO THE
NATURE AND PROPERTIES
OF
THE MINERAL WATERS,
&c. &c. &c.
AND
A CONCISE VIEW
OF THE
COUNTY OF GLOCESTER.



Bays Hill Lodge.

Cheltenham:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY H. RUFF.

1803.

THE
HISTORY OF CHELTENHAM,
AND
ACCOUNT OF ITS ENVIRONS:

CONTAINING
AN INQUIRY INTO THE DISCOVERY AND PROPERTIES
OF THE MINERAL WATERS;

AN ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF THE
ACCOMMODATIONS AND AMUSEMENTS—AND OF THE
RIDES AND WALKS IN THE VICINITY;

EXCURSIONS TO, AND DESCRIPTIONS OF,
THE NEIGHBOURING CITIES, AND OTHER PLACES
WORTHY OF NOTE,

AND
A TOUR TO MONMOUTH, DOWN THE WYE;

WITH
A CONCISE DISPLAY
OF
THE COUNTY OF GLOCESTER—ITS BEAUTIES, AND
PRODUCTIONS;

ALSO
AN APPENDIX,

CONTAINING
A COPIOUS AND ACCURATE ITINERARY:
THE WHOLE INTENDED AS A USEFUL AND AMUSING

GUIDE

TO THE
Visitor and Traveller.

CHELTENHAM
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY H. RUFF :
AND SOLD BY PAYNE, FAULDER, EVANS, ROBINSONS, AND
AT THE MINERVA LIBRARY, LONDON; CRUTTWELL,
AND MEYLER, BATH; HANWELL AND PARKER,
OXFORD; SMART, WORCESTER; AND BY
THE BOOKSELLERS IN GLOCESTER.

owners' Hall.



TO
THE MOST NOBLE THE
MARQUIS OF WORCESTER,
MEMBER FOR THE COUNTY OF GLOCESTER,
WHOSE
PATRIOTISM AND PRIVATE WORTH
REFLECT LUSTRE UPON EACH OTHER,
THIS WORK
IS HUMBLY AND RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,
BY HIS OBLIGED,
AND VERY OBEDIENT HUMBLE SERVANT,

H. RUFF.

CHELTENHAM,
Sept. 1803.

PREFACE

ADVERTISEMENT.

From a neglect, which the Editor could neither foresee nor prevent, he is unable to give the plate he originally intended. The dilemma was awkward—he has chosen the step he thought best: and he trusts that the two plates accompanying the work will at once acquit him of neglect, and prove his wish not to fall short of his proposals to the public.

rather to gratify the antiquarian,
than to amuse the reader of histories

Handwritten text, possibly a signature or date, appearing as a dark, irregular line.

Handwritten text, possibly a signature or date, appearing as a dark, irregular line.

PREFACE.

IN presenting the reader with the following work, my object has been that of rationally gratifying such curiosity as may lead him to visit the town of Cheltenham; and to afford him such information as may enable him, with the least possible embarrassment or inconvenience, to enjoy the amusements of the place, and experience the salutary properties of its waters.

It will be seen, that I have but little entered into those dry and difficult points which are calculated rather to gratify the antiquarian, than to amuse the reader of histories

and tours : without depreciating the utility of those works which treat professedly of ancient customs and forms, (and indeed the very high prices they bear sufficiently indicate the opinion universally entertained of them) I hope the presumption will not be too great, if the present volume is recommended as embracing all the information that will be looked for in a work, purporting to be as well a **GUIDE** as a **History**.

It is now six years since the last edition of Mr. Moreau's *Tour to Cheltenham* made its appearance ; and that circumstance alone, considering the vast alterations and improvements that have been made in the place itself, and in the accommodations and diversions, within that time, would afford a sufficient rea-

son, were others wanting, for the publishing of this work ; but I may fairly say, that Mr. Moreau's arrangement was so extremely perplexed, that, unless nearly the whole was read through, when any particular information was wanted, the reader would find himself obliged to lay down the book without being satisfied.

It is in justice to myself I must notice, that were this book collated with Mr. Moreau's, more would *appear* to be borrowed from him than I am prepared to allow : I freely acknowledge to have transcribed from him the Royal Tour, part of the account of the waters, and some few of his multifarious notes. For the other articles in which any similarity will be found, my acknowledgments are

due to Rudder's History of Gloucestershire; from which Mr. Moreau *most liberally* drew, as Rudder did of necessity from his predecessor, Sir Robert Atkins. The foundations, therefore, on which I trust my claim to public approbation and encouragement may be built, are the additional descriptions which the intervening time between the publication of Mr. Moreau's work and the present rendered necessary—a more accurate account of the virtues of the waters—a less erring guide to the accommodations and amusements of the place, as also to the rides about and excursions from Cheltenham—a valuable Itinerary—and above all, a degree of method and perspicuity, most unaccountably neglected in that book.

The reasons I had for publishing this work having been mentioned, the assistance I have received in its compilation must not be forgotten. To those gentlemen, whose aid has not been confined to mere information, but who have furnished me with those paragraphs from which the reader will receive the most satisfaction, I here beg to return my acknowledgments. It would have been a pleasure to me to have announced their names; and thus to have restored, in some degree, my borrowed plumes. All merit be theirs—the faults I bear willingly myself; since to me alone can, with justice, be attributed any inconsistencies, which either of my friends in a work entirely his own would no doubt have avoided.

In conclusion, I hope the confidence is just with which I rely on the known spirit and liberality of my countrymen; on the ready and beneficent patronage of those who feel interested in the History of Cheltenham, and in having a place accurately described which has long been, and is likely to continue to be, the source of health and rational amusement to thousands.

H. RUFF.

CHEL TENHAM,
Sept. 1803.

CONTENTS.

CHAP. I.—*The Antiquity of Cheltenham.*

The Origin of Cheltenham, *page* 1.—To whom Cheltenham
anciently belonged, 5.

CHAP. II.—*General Account of the Town.*

Situation of Cheltenham, and Local Advantages, 13.—
Markets, 24.—Fairs, 25.—Coals, 27.—Cheltenham
Church, 28.—The Church-yard, 30.—The Rectory, 31.
—Hospital and Free School, 34.—Lady Capel's Charity,
37.—Sunday Schools, *ibid.*—Cheltenham Repository, 38.
—Volunteer Corps, 40.

CHAP. III.—*Accommodations and Amusements.*

Inns, 42.—Smith's Boarding and Lodging House, *ibid.*—
Russell's Boarding and Lodging House, 43.—York Hotel,
ibid.—Lodging Houses, 44.—Assembly Rooms, *ibid.*—
Rules of the Rooms, 48.—Billiard Tables, 51.—Back-
gammon Rooms, *ibid.*—Theatre, 52.—Sadler's Wells, or
Puppet Show, 54.—Circulating Libraries, 55; Mr. Har-
ward's—Mrs. Jones's—and Mr. Selden's.—Musical Li-
brary, 58.—Summer Concerts, 59.—China Warehouse,
60.—Sundries, 62.—Banks, *ibid.*

CHAP. IV.—*Cheltenham Spa.*

THE SPRING, 63.—Well Walks, &c. 66.—The New Well, &c. 73.—Properties of the Water, 74.—Good Effects of the Water, 76.—Relaxed Habit, 78.—Gout, 79.—Fair Sex, 80.—Nervous and Hypochondriac, *ibid.*—Consumption, 81.—Dr. Saunders on the Cheltenham Water, 84.—General Rules and Observations, 97.—Proper Season, 99.—The newly-discovered Chalybeate Water, 104.—Freeman's Baths, 106.—The Warm Bath, 107.—The Vapour Bath, 111.—The Tepid Bath, with Extracts from Count Rumford, 114.—The Season 123.

CHAP. V.—*Vicinity of Cheltenham.*

RIDES: to Prestbury, 126; the Grotto, 128.—Southam; De la Bere Family, 130.—Prospect from Cleeve Cloud, 134.—Winchcomb, 135.—Sudley, 141.—Rides at the East End of the Town, 146.—Rides at the West End of the Town, 151.

CHAP. VI.—*Excursion to Gloucester.*

Description of the City, 154.—The Cathedral, 160.—Trade, Manufacture, &c. 174.—The Infirmary, 179.—Lunatic Asylum, 184.—Music Meeting, 189.—City Gaol, 194.—County Gaol, *ibid.*—Moseley on the Prison at Venice, 206.

CHAP. VII.—*Excursion down the Wye, 209.*

ROSS, 210.—Ross to Monmouth, down the Wye, 213.—Goodrich Castle, 215.—Whitechurch, 220.—Doward, 221.—The New Wear, 223.

CHAP. VIII.—*Excursion to Tewkesbury.*

The Road to Tewkesbury, 227.—Description of the Town, 228.—The Church, 232.

CHAP. IX.—*Excursion to Worcester, and Malvern.*

Description of Worcester, 240.—Worcester China, 245.—Hop Trade, 247.—The Cathedral, 249.—John Baskerville, 252.—GREAT MALVERN, 253.—Little Malvern, 257.—The Malvern Hills, 258.—Upton, 262.

CHAP. X.—*Excursion to Cirencester.*

Account of the Town, 263.—Lord Bathurst's Seat, 267.—Bibury Races, 270.—Bibury, 271.

CONCISE DISPLAY OF THE COUNTY.

THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, 274.—List of Market Towns, 288.—The Coteswold, 289.—The Vale, 295.—Forests and Chases, 298.—The Forest of Dean, *ibid.*

Rivers and Canals.

The Severn, 305.—The Isis, 308.—Warwickshire Avon, 309.—Bristol Avon, *ibid.* — CANALS: Junction of the Thames and Severn, 310.—Stroud Canal, 314.—Hereford and Gloucester Canal, 316.—Gloucester and Berkeley Canal, 318.

Produce of the County, &c.

Corn, 319.---Fish, *ibid.*----Cyder, 323.----Bacon, 325.----
Cheese, *ibid.*---Coal, 327.---CLOATHING MANUFACTURE, 328.---GLOCESTERSHIRE SOCIETY IN LONDON, 329.---LOCAL PROVERBS, 331.---George Ridler's Oven, 334.

APPENDIX.

The Royal Visit, 337.---Medal on the King's Recovery, 341.----Cheltenham Repository, 343.----Posts, 345.----Coaches, 346.----Waggon, 348.

ITINERARY, 351.

THE
HISTORY OF CHELTENHAM,
&c.

CHAPTER I.

The Antiquity of Cheltenham.

ORIGIN OF CHELTENHAM.

THE origin of Cheltenham, like the origin of almost every other town, is involved in doubt and obscurity. The various revolutions to which this kingdom, in its earlier history, has been subject, and the consequent fluctuation of local customs and manners, prescribe very limited bounds to the spirit of inquiry. Whether, as some have affirmed, the word "Cheltenham" owes its rise to a river, a mountain, or the nature of its soil, is a subject more curious than useful, and more likely to gratify ingenuity, than afford conviction. The historian, who

mingles the spirit of romance with the scrupulous caution of antiquarianism, may possibly trace the word to some source hitherto unknown and unconceived: he may perhaps find it connected with the name of some redoubted ancient hero; some feudal baron of high renown, who once was the pride and terror of the neighbourhood.

It is sufficient if we state what our predecessors have asserted, and leave the reader to his own conclusion. Some have attributed the word Cheltenham to the name of a brook*, which rises in the parish of Dowdeswell, and takes its course along the south side of the town: the proper name of this brook is supposed to have been Chilt†.

* Leland (Itin. Vol. iv. p. 170) thus observes: "Cheltenham, a longe towne, havying a markett. It belonged to the Abbey of Cirencester, now to the Kinge. There is a brooke on the south side of the town." From this definition there is nothing *decidedly* in point of Cheltenham owing its name to the brook.

† The Chilt, running hence through Boddington, four miles west of Cheltenham, and five south of Tewkesbury, on the turnpike road between these two places, empties itself into the Severn at Wainload Bridge, a

Others again have derived the name of the town from the nature of the soil ; which, in the Anglo-Saxon appellation, is *Chyle*, or *Cyle*, meaning clay. From this latter derivation, we might suppose the word “ Cheltenham ” to signify “ a Town of Clay,” from the houses being formerly made of clay (previous to the Saxons having learnt the art of brick-making,) did not the same reasoning apply to every other town built at the same period.

Truth, however, generally lies in the medium of extremes : and if we discard both these conjectures of the brook, and the clay soil, and confine ourselves to what is more strictly probable, we may perhaps draw a conclusion somewhat consonant to the rules of etymology.

The word *Chilt*, in the Saxon tongue, signifies an *elevated place*, or *place rising to an eminence*. *Ham*, or *haam*, as also *heym*, in the German, a *house* or *home*, a *monastery* or *minster*, a *farm*, *city*, or *village*,—and, in

mile below the Haw Passage, seven from Cheltenham, and ten from its source.

its usual acceptation, may be applied to any *place assigned for abode, and fit for shelter*. As *ham* is meant a place of shelter, and as the town stands at the bottom of a range of high hills, we conceive, without a strained inference, that the word “Cheltenham” might have originally signified, *the Town under the rising Ground, or Hills*.

TANNER, in his *Notitia Monastica*, p. 142, takes notice of a monastery which was once erected here about the year 803*; and Cheltenham might have derived its name from this monastery; as it was situated on one of the elevated spots near the town. Thus the word *Chilt* and *Ham*, as originally signifying an *elevated* place, and *monastery* or *village*, may be the true foundation of the present word “Cheltenham.” We are not very tenacious of the accuracy of this derivation, in exclusion of all others, but we conceive it to be more rational than any hitherto advanced.

* Mr. Prymne mentions a priory in Cheltenham, of which a part was inhabited by the Lessee of the impropriation. Both Dugdale, and his continuator Steevens; take no notice of this priory.

TO WHOM CHELTENHAM ANCIENTLY
BELONGED.

In the reign of William the Conqueror, the town of Cheltenham was an ancient demesne, and enjoyed great privileges; it was vested in the Crown, but was the *bonâ fide* property of Henry de Bohun Earl of Hereford, with whom he exchanged it for other lands.

Henry III. 1219. In this king's reign, the manor and hundred were granted to William Long Espee (otherwise Longsword, a natural son of Henry by the celebrated Fair Rosamond), who was afterwards Earl of Salisbury, in right of his wife Elizabeth, only daughter to William, son of Patrick d'Eurieux, first Earl of Salisbury. In the 7th year of Henry's reign, William Long Espee leased the benefit of the markets, fairs, and hundreds of Cheltenham, to the inhabitants of the town; which lease, three years afterwards, was renewed, with certain reserved rents. About the 10th year of the same reign, Long Espee died, possessed of it, and was succeeded by his son William,

who forfeited his estates for going out of the realm without leave from the Monarch : William was slain abroad by the Saracens ; and his only son dying an infant, the title became extinct, and fell to the Crown.

Henry, in the 27th year of his reign, 1243, granted the manor of Cheltenham in dower to his Queen Eleanor : thus were the same lands, by a singular train of events, granted to the offspring of his paramour, and to his lawful wife ! In the year 1252 (and the 36th of his reign), the manors of Cheltenham and Selangtree, and the hundreds of Cheltenham and Salenmansberrie, became possessed by the Abbey of Pischam, in Normandy, who purchased them in exchange of lands in Winchelsea and Rye, in Sussex. The rights and privileges which attended the purchase of these manors and hundreds were confirmed to the Abbey by Edward I. in the 15th year of his reign ; and three years afterwards a licence was obtained from the King to sell the same.

Edward II. 1309. John Limel, who, it is imagined, held by lease only, died seized of this manor.

By an unknown series of conveyances, it afterwards came into the possession of an alien monastery in Normandy; and from thence the title travelled back again to England, and the manor was vested in the nunnery of Sion *, in Middlesex.

In the fourth year of the reign of Edward IV. 1465. Sir Maurice Berkeley (brother to James the fifth Lord of Berkeley, and who, in 1460, was seized of the castle and manor of Beverston †, in this county), held this manor by lease, it is supposed, from the Abbess

* Situated on the banks of the Thames, between Brentford and Isleworth, and now the seat of his Grace the Duke of Northumberland. The character of a nunnery is still preserved in the form of the architecture; it is a square, low building, with turrets, and has a quadrangle within. The taste and magnificence of the interior affords a striking contrast to the homeliness of the exterior. The gardens have a beautifully rich effect. The Thames is a fine feature in the landscape which surrounds these quiet and wealthy domains.

† Beverston Castle, one mile N. E. of Tetbury, is said to have been built in the reign of Edward III. by Thomas Earl of Berkeley (it was only repaired at that time) out of the ransom of the prisoners he took at the battle of Poitiers, under Edward the Black Prince.

of Sion ; as the nunnery was possessed of it at the time of its dissolution by Henry VIII.*

From the time of Henry VIII. to James I. the manor of Cheltenham was vested in the Crown : when James, in the 5th of his reign, granted it to William Dutton, Esq.† and from him it has descended to James Dutton, Esq. *the present lord of the manor* ; who, May 11, 1784, was created *an English peer* by the title of LORD SHIREBORNE. Previous to his creation, he was one of the representatives of the county of Gloucester in Parliament, as many of his ancestors had been.

The present Lord Shireborne (owner of the manor), is the twenty-third in lineal descent from Hudart, or Odart, the Norman,

* The annual revenues of the abbey, at the time of its dissolution, amounted to £1944. 11. 11½. and the King was so pleased with the situation, that he kept the place to himself. Queen Mary settled nuns there again, but they were expelled by Elizabeth, who, however, permitted them to carry their treasures along with them.

† Son of Thomas Dutton, Esq. who, in 1553, purchased the manor, with the rectory and advowson of Shireborne, of Sir Christopher Allen.

{who, with his five brothers, came over at the time of the Conquest, 1066, with Hugh Lupus*, afterwards Earl of Chester;} and

* Of Hudart and Lupus it may not be amiss to entertain the reader with some curious account, as taken from the historians of Gloucestershire.

Hugh Lupus, son of Emma (sister to the Conqueror by his mother Arlete's marriage with Harlaine, a Norman gentleman) by the Count of Auranches, was, by his uncle the Conqueror, 1070, (by the advice of his council,) placed at Chester, as being a valiant soldier, and proper person to restrain the Welsh; and had all Cheshire, except what belonged to the bishops, which was not much, given to him and his heirs for ever, with the title and earldom of Chester, to hold it as freely by the sword as he (William) did the kingdom of England. That is, he was to exercise as absolute an authority over the lives and fortunes of the inhabitants of that county, as the King did over the rest of the kingdom; thus constituting him a Count Palatine, or officer invested with superior power to repel invasions. He was the first hereditary Earl, and exercised sovereign authority over it 40 years; and during that time created eight barons. Besides which, he had a grant of twenty-four manors in other counties; of which, six were in Gloucestershire. This Hugh seated Hudart, or Odart, at Duntone, near Weaverham, in Cheshire; whence his descendants took the surname *De Duntune*, or *Dutton*; and where, for singular services rendered Renulph, sixth Earl of Chester,

eighth from Thomas Dutton, who first purchased in Gloucestershire 250 years ago.

in obliging the Welsh, under Llewellyn, (who had besieged him in Rothlain, or Rhudland Castle, in Flintshire, built by Earl Hugh's nephew, Robert de Rudland,) to retreat, he further granted this family very great privileges, which being of an extraordinary nature, I shall here give some account of.

It was on Midsummer-day, the principal fair at Chester, when the news came, that the castle was invested, and succour demanded of Roger de Laci, constable of Chester; he immediately dispatched Ralph Dutton, who, gathering together the rude multitude, and among them a great number of fidlers, arrived in time to deliver the Earl from his danger. In reward for which service, a charter for the government and regulating of all the fidlers within the county of Chester, was granted to him and his heirs. And yearly on Midsummer-day all the fidlers and minstrels of the county attend the heir of the said Ralph Dutton, or his steward, from his lodging to the church, one going before with the surcoat of the arms of Dutton, and the fidlers walking two by two, playing on their instruments. Service ended, they proceed in the same order to the court-house, where laws and ordinances are established for their better government, and penalties are inflicted on the transgressors: a jurisdiction which the statute 39th Elizabeth, for punishing rogues, vagabonds, &c. and that of 1st James I. for the

Thus have we endeavoured to give a compressed account of the manor of Cheltenham, from the time of William the Conqueror, to the present period : in so doing,

same purpose, have provided especially against interfering with or prejudicing.

Odart's sword, says Mr. Rudder, is still carefully preserved in the Dutton family, having passed over from heir to heir as an heirloom accruing with the house to the next heir.

The title of Earl of Chester became extinct in Earl Hugh's family, 1237, 21st Henry III. by the death of John le Scot, sister's son to Renulph, who made the above grant, and fell to the Crown ; and was by Henry III. first granted to his second son Edmund, (who was also Earl of Leicester and Derby,) but revoked and given to his eldest, afterwards King Edward I. and the title has ever since been annexed to those of the Prince of Wales. His son Edward II. was the first English Prince the Welsh acknowledged ; he was born among them, April 25, 1284, at Caernarvon Castle. The title of Earl at first descended to heirs general, but from the time of Edward I. it has been usually limited to heirs male. Those who were then made Earls were frequently of the blood royal, and for this reason our monarchs call them, in all public writings, *Our Most Dear Cousin*. This was the greatest dignity in England for above 300 years, till Edward III. 1336, created his son Duke of Cornwall.

we trust we have not wearied the attention, or exhausted the patience, of the visitor or inhabitant. Few will be displeased with a retrospective view of the fate of that spot, where they are led by curiosity, or settled by choice.

CHAP. II.

General Account of the Town.

SITUATION OF CHELTENHAM, AND LOCAL
ADVANTAGES.

THE town of Cheltenham is situated in a fertile and extensive vale, on the west side of a long range of hills (composed of soft granulated rocks), which, towards the town, present a very bold and picturesque aspect. The precipitate and craggy declivity of Leckhampton*, with its grotesque chimney, built by preternatural hands†, affords a striking contrast to the luxuriant cloathing, and gentle curve, of the adjacent hills. The loftiest of these hills is probably Cleeve Cloud, which lies to the north of Leckhampton.

* A hill so called, about a mile and a half from the town.

† “Built by the Devil,” as say the vulgar: it was, no doubt, built by shepherds in the frolic of an idle hour.

about two miles and a half from the town. The surrounding country affords plenty of wood for timber and fuel; and abounds with grain and vegetables of all kinds. Poultry and cattle are not among the least of the *good things* which the vicinity of Cheltenham affords: the excellence of the mutton is universally allowed. The hospitable host will frequently regale his visitor with *Coteswold mutton*; and, while the cup circulates freely, will bestow a panegyric on it, which exalts it to the rank of venison. The Egyptians of old could not more have revered their Ibis, than a thorough-bred Gloucestershire farmer does a Coteswold sheep.

To revert to the town and its surrounding scenery.—We have before observed that it is situated in a vale; this vale is known by the name of “The Vale of Evesham,” but more correctly should be called “The Vale of Gloucester*.” Guarded by the chain of

* By what authority this is called the Vale of Evesham, I know not. Anciently it was denominated from the city of Gloucester; for Malmsbury de Gist. Pont. Aug. b. iv. and Camden, from him, says, “this city

hills (already mentioned) from the bleak and piercing blasts of the north and east, the town of Cheltenham has every advantage which an admirer of a country residence can wish for: it is open to the south and west (with the river Severn) almost as far as Bristol. The hills form a screen, running from the county of Warwick to that of Somerset; comprehending Broadway, Birdlip, Painswick, Stroud, Rodborough, &c. and terminating in the Somersetshire and Wiltshire hills.

With these local advantages, it may justly be admired by all who frequent it. Of the medicinal virtues of its waters it is intended to say nothing in the present place, that subject being reserved, as it well may, for a distinct chapter in a subsequent part of the volume. It will not, however, be irrelative to re-

stands in the Vale of Gloucester." Ravelle, in his Gist. to the Priory of Beckford, in Mon. Ang. says, "Beckford is in the Vale of Gloucester." In a confirmation of lands by King Richard I. to Almaric Despencer, Stanley is expressly said to be in the Vale of Gloucester; and Malmsbury says, that Bristol stands in the same vale.

mark, that as many flock to places of summer resort for the virtues of medicinal waters, and find nothing to cheer and animate them beyond those waters*, how superior does

* The reader, with the author, will probably think on Buxton.—What can be more insufferable than a fine row of buildings, exposed to the sultry rays of a meridian sun—surrounded by bald and barren hills—innumerable smoking lime kilns—and heavy roads, which destroy both carriages and horses!

We shall here, without apology, present our reader with a letter on the subject of Buxton, supposed to be written by Dr. Johnson; and which we extract from a newspaper, called *The Globe, or Evening Literary Advertiser*. March 6, 1803.

The following extract of a letter, from Dr. Johnson to a friend in Scotland, dated at Buxton, was found among the papers of a distinguished literary character, not long deceased:—

“ Fortune often delights to exalt what nature has neglected; and that renown which cannot be claimed by intrinsic excellence, is often derived from accident. The Rubicon was ennobled by the passage of Cæsar; and the bubbling up of a stream in the middle of a lime quarry, has given celebrity to Buxton. The waters, in which it is agreed no mineral properties reside, and which seem to have no better claim to superior heat than what is derived from comparing them with the almost Siberian atmosphere that surrounds them, are said, how-

Cheltenham stand! affording not only vigor to the constitution, but delight to the eye

ever, to possess a spirit, which, though too volatile and unknown to receive a name from the chemists of graver ages, have, in this fanciful æra, when macaroni philosophers hold flirtation with science, taken the lead of all other elements; and those whose nerves have found no relief in change of sky, or variety, seek for refuge here in fixed air.

“It is indeed amazing, the avidity with which all ranks of mankind seek after that health, which they have voluntarily alienated to disease; like methodists, who hope for salvation through faith without works, invalids come here, in hopes to find in the well that vigor they lost in the bowl; and to absorb in the bath the moisture that was evaporated at the ball or masquerade. For this purpose they venture to this dreary spot, which contemplates with envy the Highlands of Scotland, surrounded by barren mountains, beaten by storms almost perpetual, where scarce an inhabitant is to be seen, unless when the sun, whose appearance is justly considered as one of the wonders of the Peak, draws them out, from a curiosity natural to man, to wonder into what cavern the storm has retired. Yet this is summer, and, if the winter holds its natural proportion, the inhabitants of the hall, who are not thirty yards from the well, must pass months without any communication with it.

“Yet the same folly which created disease, for the cure of which so much is suffered, obstructs the operation of

and mind! its various walks—shady lanes—
and sheltered roads—with the luxuriance of
its meadows and corn fields!

the remedy, from which so much is hoped: animated by the appetites, which even the deluent power of common water, assisted by the vibration of diurnal exercise, and the collusive hilarity of reciprocal salutation, would give to a body obstructed by gluttony and rest, they devour with delicious hunger a farinaceous sponge, with its interstices undulated with butter, which might smile with contempt at the peristaltic exertions of an elephant, and of which the digestion would be no less an evil than the obstruction: if obstructed, it convulses the stomach with rancid exhalations; and if by its gravity it finds its way to the bowels, it tumifies them with flatulent paroxysms of wind: by its detention in both it becomes acrimonious and mephitic; and while its fumes arise and salute the brain with palsy, its *caput mortuum* descends, and lays the foundation of fistula.

“ Very providentially, however, the evils of breakfast are not aggravated by the dinner:—dinner is rather a ceremony here than a repast; and those that are delicate and sick, acquire popularity by disseminating among the multitude that food, which nothing but rude health, both of body and mind, can digest. When it is finished, the chaplain calls upon the company to be thankful for what they have received; and the company, remembering they have breakfasted, join in the thanksgiving.

“ The evils of the day are likewise happily alleviated

It has, of late, been the fashion of our countrymen to feed their minds with the rural charms of *foreign* scenes—with the

by the early hours of going to bed ; and if sleep forsakes the pillow, even fancy itself cannot charge it to the supper.

“ There are, notwithstanding, upwards of two hundred people here, who, by talking continually of how much Nature has left undone, and how little Art has done for the place, increase the spleen they hope to cure at it ; who speak with rapture of the beauties of Matlock, which, though within their reach, they never go to ; and who, hoping by the power of imagination to convert a smoking cauldron into a cold bath, relax and waste to sensitive agony those fibres, which, from the comfortless state of Buxton, and of the best well which Nature gives to man to drink of, require the tention of the bow-string and the vigor of steel.”

Of the authenticity of this *extraordinary* letter, it is not for us to determine. That it abounds with *striking* words and *sonorous* passages, cannot be denied : but whether its *perspicuity* be equal to its *pungency*, is a point on which profounder critics must give their unbiassed opinion. The name of JOHNSON is justly revered ; and no doubt, among his multifarious productions, many instances of the *pomposa felicitas* may be adduced. Certain it is, that Swift or Addison would have described the place in language a little more familiar to an *Englishman*.

fragrance of Alpine gales, and the serenity of Italian skies—but let the lover of nature take a fair and favourable survey of the whole sweep of landscape which may be seen from the summit of those hills that surround the *town of Cheltenham*—let him view a fruitful and wide-spreading vale, intersected by the windings of the Severn, and diversified by villages, pastures, and wood! Let him contemplate this enlivening and heart-touching landscape, guarded on the one hand by the chain of the Coteswold Hills, and bounded on the other by the magnificence of the Malvern Mountains, and a long range of distant hills, which melt into the horizon of South Wales. Let him view this!—and with such a scene before him, at the distance of near 100 miles from the metropolis, let him not sigh for brighter beauties of nature!

Cheltenham is situated in 51 deg. 51 min. north lat. and 2 deg. 5 min. west long. It is about 9 miles E. N. E. from Gloucester, 15 N. N. W. from Cirencester, 38 W. N. W. from Oxford, 9 S. E. from Tewkesbury, 40 from Hereford by Ross, 42 from Hereford by Ledbury, 36 from Monmouth, 24 from

Malvern, 25 from Worcester, 44 from Bristol, 43 N. N. E. from Bath, and 98 W. N. W. from London. The road to Bath was formerly through Gloucester, but is now through Birdlip, over Leckhampton Hill.

The town consists, in a great degree, of one street only: the lanes branching from it may now, however, on account of the improvements which have extended to them, lay a fair claim to the same appellation. And the addition of St. George's Place, and of a number of neat and respectable boxes, which have successively appeared in the vicinity, gives the whole a compactness, which it formerly much wanted. The High Street, running from east to west, is about a mile in length, airy throughout, and in many parts, particularly in the neighbourhood of the Plough, of a noble width. In consequence of a late Act of Parliament the whole town is remarkably well paved and lighted: and an opportunity afforded, when wet or dampness forbids a lounge in the fields, of a dry continued promenade a mile long. The houses are mostly new, or new fronted, and built with brick, and though not regular,

have a clean and pretty appearance : indeed cleanliness is a characteristic of the place. The view of the neighbouring rocky cliff, which occasionally obtrudes itself, affords a pleasing relief to the eye, and the street scenery can hardly be matched by any town in England. Great improvements have been made within the last ten years* ; many elegant rows and single houses have been erected, and others are now building : and the purchase of a house, though on the smallest scale, is daily becoming a matter of more serious consideration.

The erection of an entire new street is in agitation ; and the colonnade, intended to run from the centre of the town, on the south

* Not many years ago a stream of water ran through the middle of the street, and in the height of summer was an object peculiarly grateful. Had an *extraordinary* width permitted a convenient road on each side, its retention would have been desirable : at present the centre of the street forms an excellent road, and a channel on each side carries off the water. The Act of Parliament for paving, cleaning, and otherwise beautifying the town, was obtained in 1786.

side, down to the spa, will, when completed, form a pile of buildings, and have an effect, rarely to be met with. The pleasant meadow of Cambray, on the south side of the top of the town, lately purchased by Mr. Watson, and in which he intends raising a new theatre, will soon be covered with houses of the first taste and elegance: the present master of the ceremonies, Mr. King, having already set the example.

From a survey taken in consequence of the late Act of Parliament, for an estimate of the population of Great Britain, it appears that the parish of Cheltenham (consisting of five hamlets besides the town, viz. Arle, Alston, Westall, Naunton, and Sandford) contained 3076 souls: the town itself contains about 2639 inhabitants*. The houses are about 710 in number: of which the town contains 618; the hamlets 92.

* This, however, will always be subject to changes, as the number is continually fluctuating.—Previous to the inclosure, the arable lands within the parish did not exceed 1900 acres, the pasture 1500.

MARKETS.

The market day is Thursday ; but the town is at all times supplied with abundance of meat, poultry, and vegetables. The mutton, as before remarked, is particularly fine ; and as the neighbouring towns and villages, extending even to Evesham, daily throw in their supplies of poultry, eggs, vegetables, fruit, &c. it is very common to find the prices of these commodities less in this place of general resort, than in others where the demand for them is not so great. Many respectable butchers reside in it, and the market place is daily attended by others from the neighbouring villages.

Amongst the local productions, and inferior only to the mutton, may be mentioned the rabbits, which the warren at Postlip, about five miles from the town, produces. This delicate, though cheap provision, will not fail to recommend itself to the visitor, notwithstanding the absurd law of modern fashion, that *tame* rabbits are to be preferred.

There is also a tolerable supply of fish, especially eels, trout, salmon, shad, elvers, &c. Some of the latter are peculiar to the county, and rarities which a Londoner well knows how to estimate.

The Market House stands in the centre of the town, and being small, and not adapted to the quantity of marketable produce with which the town now requires to be supplied, is become very inconvenient, and unfit for the purposes for which it was intended. As the spirit and size of the town increase, so have we reason to expect that another market house will be among the first objects of improvement.

FAIRS.

In the course of the year there are four Fairs held for cattle of all sorts, viz. on the 2d Thursday in April—on Holy Thursday—on the 5th day of August (St. James's day, O.S.)—and on the 2d Thursday in September—And on the 3d Thursday in December there is a cheese fair. Besides these, there are two statute fairs, called (according to the custom

of the country) by the emphatic name of *Mops**, for the hiring of men and women servants: these fairs are held on the Thursday before Michaelmas day, and the Thursday after; at both which, as at the other fairs, there is a profuse display of pedlary, toys, and all the paraphernalia requisite to adorn the bonnets and stomachers of country lasses. It forms a curious and amusing sight, (and which a philosopher may contemplate with satisfaction,) to behold the mixture of London elegance with Gloucestershire fashion: to view the street decorated with

* This uncouth term would startle many antiquaries: we do not profess to give the most accurate definition of it, but we lay claim to the merit of having suggested *something*. Might not this term have been originally *mob*, and the *p* somehow put for the *b*? If *mob*, we conceive it must have originated, not from their being called mobs in the usual acceptation, (as shallow wits would conceit,) but from the girls wearing a particular kind of cap, called *mob caps*. This definition will surprise a man who has seen nothing but *London caps*. On the contrary, if the word is to stand *mop*, might it not be so termed from the young women being called *mop-squeezers*? an appellation well known in the country, as attaching to raw unexperienced maid-servants.

booths, and those booths decorated in their turn with ribands and trinkets; and the crowding together of rustic lads and Bond Street beaux—of rural lasses and Westminster belles. This union of opposite characters produces a singular effect, and gives equal pleasure to both parties. The refinement of London is gaped at and imitated by the ignorance of the country: and many a lass, on her return to the dairy, has learnt a new method of decorating her bonnet, which she thinks will surely entrap the heart of some admirer on the following Sunday.

COALS.

The town and neighbourhood are supplied with coals both from Gloucester and Tewkesbury, and also from a wharf about five miles from the town, at the head of a small canal, branching from the Severn at Wainlode Hill, and running to Coombe Hill; a length of two miles and a half. Owing to the great increase that has been periodically made in the price of coals, at the pits, the charge in the town is now from 28s. to 30s. per ton—a serious sum! and which it is expected the

completion of the canal will lower. The visitors, however, have less cause to complain than the inhabitants; as, during the summer the consumption of the article is comparatively so small.

CHELTENHAM CHURCH.

In the centre of the town, a little without the street, on the south side, stands the church, which is spacious; and consists of a transept and two aisles—a tower in the middle, finished by a lofty octagonal spire, and containing eight musical bells, which it is customary to ring on the arrival of visitors of distinction. In the church is a beautiful circular window, divided by gothic divisions into 33 compartments, 15 feet in diameter, making a circumference of 45 feet: this is noticed by Mr. Lysons in his views of the churches in Gloucestershire. The church was built in the year 1011*. It is, with the deanery of Winchcomb, an im-

* There was formerly a chantry in this church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which is now fallen to decay.

propriation*, which originally belonged to the nunnery of Sion, but immediately before the dissolution of monasteries to the abbey of Cirencester.

We intended following the example of Mr. Bigland, in his "Historical, Monumental and Genealogical Collections of the County of Gloucester," but find it much too long for the limits of our work. In order to afford an idea of longevity in Cheltenham, and thereby prove its healthy situation, we here give the number of those who have died between the ages of 65 and 96, (whose names appear on tombstones, in the church yard,) during the last 80 years :

On Monuments, about	- - - -	45
On Head and Flat Stones	- - -	180
		<hr/> 225

* At the Dissolution of Monasteries, certain livings were disposed of to the best bidders, or to the greatest favorites and so became lay property ; these are called *impropriations*. Of about 10,000 churches and chapels now in England, 3835 (upwards of one-third) are impropriations. — *Appropriations* are such as were appointed to the erecting or augmenting of some bishopric, deanery, or religious foundation.

The lecture on Sunday afternoon is supported by the inhabitants: and prayers are read every Wednesday and Friday forenoon, and on holidays, by the present clergyman, the Rev. H. Foulke, for which service a subscription is maintained by the visitors.

THE CHURCH YARD.

The Church Yard is not very spacious: nor can we agree with our predecessor, Mr. Moreau, in calling it "one of the *most beautiful* in England." The walks, however, are broad and commodious, and mostly shaded by double rows of lime trees. The whole, from east to west, is about 220 feet; and from north to south about 170 feet: and may contain about three quarters of an acre of ground.

The old cross, erected probably when so many other crosses were erected throughout the kingdom (in the reign of Edward I.), still remains near the large circular window before noticed. It is 17 feet in height, and does not bear any marks of curious workmanship.

THE RECTORY.

The benefice is an endowed curacy. In 1133 the impropriation was vested in the Abbey of Cirencester. At the dissolution of monasteries it reverted to the Crown, and was granted in lease to Sir Henry Jerningham, May 22, 1560: on the 10th of May, 1592, to William Greenwell: on the 15th of February following to Richard Stephens: and on the 17th of February, 1597, to Sir Francis Bacon, knight, in consideration of 75*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* Elizabeth Badger, or Baghott, widow, held under the last mentioned lessee. In 1609 on information to Henry Parry, Lord Bishop of Gloucester, that the stipend allowed to two reading ministers, and two lay deacons, was but ten pounds, and forty shillings and eight pence, a year to each, the bishop came to Cheltenham, and preached; but the impropriatrix continuing obstinate, a petition was presented to Lord Salisbury, then secretary of state, that a chaplain might be appointed for either parish. By the mediation of Thomas Stephens, Esq. attorney general to Prince Charles, it was

compromised for the time, the sub-lessee allowing the privy tithes for payment of the stipends. But the covenants being again infracted, the parishioners petitioned the Lord Chancellor Bacon, the lessee of the Crown, stating, that by the allowing only twenty pounds to two chaplains, and *refusing to supply the sacramental bread and wine, 6000 communicants were deprived.* The attainder of the Chancellor prevented the due effect of the remonstrance, and a farther application was made to the King, with reference to the Diocesan, and Lord Keeper Williams. In 1624, when the impropriation was granted to Sir Baptist Hicks*, a decree in chancery was obtained, by which the impropriator is bound to allow a salary of 40*l.*

* Sir Baptist Hicks built the Sessions House in St. John's Street, London, called Hicks's Hall: and in 1629 (4 Ch. I.) was created Baron Hicks of Ilmington, and Viscount Campden, with remainder, in default of issue male, to Lord Noel, who married his eldest daughter Juliana; from whom the present Earl of Gainsborough is descended, and enjoys the above titles among others, with the manor of Campden, in this county, 20 miles N. E. from Gloucester.

each, to the officiating minister of either parish. This arrangement being made, Sir Baptist invested the Principal and Fellows of Jesus College, Oxford, with the nomination, subject to the subjoined restrictions, which are *copied from an authentic manuscript*:

“The parties, recommended by the college, must be sufficient preaching ministers, masters of arts of two years standing at the least, and unmarried persons*.

“The college, upon any avoydance of either of the said churches, to present to the heire of the Lord Campden three of the fellowes, and he to nominate and elect whom he pleaseth. If, after such presentment made, the heire shall not, within six weeks, elect out of the persons so presented, the nomi-

* This miserable and narrow-minded stipulation ought to be blotted out from every covenant executed in a Christian country. One almost wishes the author of it, “a scolding wife and a barren bed.” Surely such a proviso savoureth much of *monachism*: and how the gentry of this denomination lived, the reader will find in the very curious and learned work of Mr. Fosbrooke, called *British Monachism*.”

nation for that turne shall be in the college: and on the other side, if the college present not within two moneths, the heire shall name for that turne. None to be elected by the college, or presented by the heire, but fel- lowes of the college, and they to continue but six yeares at most; unless by a new pre- sentment and election. The sayd ministers to preach once every Sabbath, not to be ab- sente both together, to have no other bene- fice, and to remain unmarried." *

HOSPITAL AND FREE SCHOOL.

In the town are an Hospital and Free School, both founded in the year 1574, by Richard Pates, Esq.† The hospital is for three men and three women, with an allow- ance of TWELVE PENCE weekly, FOUR PENCE quarterly, and sixteen shillings to be

* For this account, we are indebted to Mr. Bigland, p. 311, who has copied it from the *De La Bere MSS.*

† Richard Pates, Esq. was Recorder of Gloucester in 1556, and confirmed by Queen Elizabeth's charter, 1561. He represented that city in five Parliaments; and being appointed by Henry VIII. and Edward VI. to take a survey of all religious foundations in Gloucester, Bristol,

laid out yearly for a cloak or gown for each of them. They have also donations from other benefactors.

The Free School is endowed with 30%. a year for the master *, a house for his residence, and 10%. per ann. for an assistant. The present master is the Rev. Henry Fowler, who has held his situation 22 years.

The lands assigned by Mr. Pates for the support of these pious foundations, were long ago said to be worth 60%. per annum.

The example of Mr. Pates was followed by George Townsend, Esq. of Lincoln's Inn,

&c. which were then suppressed, and vested in the Crown. He, with Thomas Chamberlayne, Esq. purchased of King Edward many of those lands, in Gloucester and elsewhere. He gave to Corp. Christ. Coll. Oxford, the nomination of the master and usher of the school at Cheltenham, subject to the approbation of the bishop of the diocese: and the college, as governors, have added *five pounds* per annum to the sum left by Richard Pates, Esq. for the support of the above school.

* The master of the school is required to be a master of arts, and thirty years of age; and when superannuated, is entitled to the first vacancy in the hospital, with the additional stipend of *two pence weekly*! This provision, however, is worded with some delicacy: "if hee will accept of the roome of a pore man."—*Bigland*.

who allotted some small tenements in Cheltenham towards the maintenance of this charity ; and by will, A. D. 1683, left 10*l.* a year, since considerably augmented, as an allowance to an exhibitioner to go from thence to Pembroke College for eight years.

Mr. Townsend likewise founded and endowed another school for the children of the poor inhabitants, with 4*l.* per annum to the master, for teaching such as are entitled to the charity to read : moreover, 5*l.* was left for apprenticing out lads in this parish.

Mr. John Walwyn gave by will, A. D. 1627, to the poor of the parish 2*l.* 10*s.* yearly for ever ; charged on his manor in the adjacent parish of Swindon. These charities, for the benefit of the poor, and for putting out children, were consolidated in the year 1667, and laid out in the purchase of lands, called the Poor's Grounds ; which, though worth only 8*l.* 5*s.* per annum at that time, are now let for 40*l.* and applied according to the intentions of the respective donors.

In addition to the above, the Rev. William Stansby, of Badgworth, in this county, in the year 1704, left an estate there, now

producing 14*l.* per annum, for apprenticing boys of the parishes of Badgworth, Churchdown (commonly called Chosen), and Cheltenham, in the following proportions:—Badgworth 5*l.* Churchdown 3*l.* and Cheltenham the overplus, yearly.

LADY CAPEL'S CHARITY.

Lady Capel, 1721, by will, gave a portion of 105*l.* to support a charity school: the yearly sum thence arising is 8*l.*

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

In 1787 Sunday Schools were established in this town, and met with very general support, not only from the inhabitants, but from the company resident at Cheltenham, who were always ready to join in such undertakings; and a sermon is now annually preached, and a collection made at the church door, towards their continuance. From the regulation of these schools, and from the deportment of the children, there is every reason to hope, that this establishment will be productive of as much essential benefit

at Cheltenham, as it has been throughout the kingdom at large.

CHEL TENHAM REPOSITORY.

Hardly second to the above is a benevolent institution, founded about three years ago, called "The Cheltenham Repository, for the reception and sale of works of ingenuity and industry, for the benefit of the sick and industrious Poor."

The object of this institution is proposed to be, "to form a fund for the relief of the sick and industrious poor. This is done by subscriptions, by donations in works, and by the proprietors of all other works leaving one-third or one-fourth part of the price of each article, according to the rules of the repository." It is said to be managed by a committee of ladies residing at Cheltenham; and we should without hesitation mention the name of a respectable one, standing, in consequence of her indefatigable exertions, at the head of the fair society, did we consult our own inclinations so much as the delicacy of her feelings.

If proofs are necessary of the real utility of such an institution, they are amply afforded by the report last published (and which we shall give in our Appendix), by which it appears, that in the course of the year above 167*l.* were distributed among objects of charity, and 147*l.* paid to different ladies, for works furnished by them for the repository.

It is the glory of Great Britain, above every other country on the face of the globe, that its charitable institutions are, beyond comparison, the most numerous, the best regulated, and most efficient. Whether we consider the size and convenience of the buildings, many of them being palaces—the comfort and cleanliness of every department within, the generosity, the care, the disinterested and upright management of the governors and superintenders, we shall have cause to admire that noble spirit and true charitable benignity, which characterizes the individuals of this envied country. With emotions such as these reflections excite, one naturally turns to contemplate the various hospitals, assylums, and schools that abound

throughout the kingdom. From the great to the small—from Greenwich to Cheltenham—there is nothing but what must excite the warmest feelings of patriotism, and convince us that the above eulogy is not bestowed without foundation.

VOLUNTEER CORPS.

During the late war, when that zeal and energetic patriotism, which we hope will for ever characterize this nation, so generally displayed itself, the “First Troop of Gloucestershire Yeomanry Cavalry” was embodied here, in the year 1795, under the command of Powell Snell, Esq. of Guiting, in this county. This troop, much to its honor, continued to observe a strict attention to discipline, till the ratification of peace. The ardor of its commander, and of the individuals who composed it, was not abated by this event: an offer was made to His Majesty, to continue the services of the corps, during the time of peace; which offer was graciously accepted.

A company of “Volunteer Infantry” also very laudibly stepped forward, in the year

1798, under the command of William Hicks, Esq. now Sir William Hicks, Bart. of Witcomb, in this county. They acquitted themselves with the utmost credit in regard to their duty, and became well disciplined. They were disembodied in September, 1802, after receiving His Majesty's thanks.

CHAP. III.

Accommodations and Amusements.

INNS.

THE Inns are, the Plough, George, Fleece, Crown, and Lamb (besides public houses of all ranks); at the first four good chaises and horses are kept. The accommodations are commodious, and vie with those of any watering place in the kingdom; and the charges, considering the celebrity of Cheltenham, are reasonable and satisfactory. The Plough drives to the King's Head, and the George to the Bell, at Gloucester.

SMITH'S BOARDING AND LODGING HOUSE,
Nº 110.

Here is a very good and commodious establishment: the house is new, and furnished in a style of modern elegance. There is a large double bow-windowed room

at bottom, lofty and spacious, where the boarders breakfast, dine, and sup, and a very neat drawing-room above: and nothing is wanting on the part of the proprietor to render his visitors both comfortable and satisfied.

Mr. Smith's boarding house has also the honor of being the first establishment of the kind ever instituted at Cheltenham. The charges are extremely reasonable.

**RUSSELL'S BOARDING & LODGING HOUSE,
Nº 81.**

This establishment is, in every respect, equal to Mr. Smith's; and we know of no advantage attached to the one, which is not enjoyed by the other. The visitor may with confidence, therefore, resort to either; he will find cleanliness, comfort, good living, and good manners in both.

YORK HOTEL.

On a scale of equal elegance to the preceding, stands the York Hotel. We have only to apply to such visitors as have resided in it for the truth of this observation. In-

deed the inns and boarding houses in general are founded on a plan of extensive accommodation, and conducted in a style, creditable to the owners, and satisfactory to those who take up their abode in them.

LODGING HOUSES.

The number of lodging houses is at present very great : the increase since the year 1788, when the King visited the town, being nearly equal to the whole number before. They are let, ready furnished, at certain prices for best rooms, whether sitting or bed, second best, or servants' rooms, kitchens, &c. and these prices, considering that linen, as well as every other article of furniture, is provided, will, on a comparison with the charges made at other places, where in general the hirer has many things to furnish himself with, be found moderate and just.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.

That a town, so fashionably attended as Cheltenham, should be without public rooms, would be a matter of regret and surprise to all. Accordingly two large commodious

rooms, where the company assemble for the purpose of dancing and playing at cards, are opened every night for public accommodation.

Here is to be regularly seen, beauty of every description, and a refinement of manners which would adorn the palace of the metropolis. Whatever of elegance, simplicity, and loveliness the capital affords, is here displayed in its most attractive forms. Fastidiousness itself must allow, that in no rural retreat is there more appropriate elegance to be discovered than in this selected spot.

The female portraits of the celebrated Sir Peter Lely are admired by every lover of painting and true taste. The elegance, and, at the same time, the pastoral simplicity of their dress, and the surrounding senery, give the canvass of Lely a certain charm, which is to be felt only and more powerfully in the living charm of Cheltenham.

With this debût into the public rooms we proceed to a more particular account.

There are two assembly rooms (or more properly suites of rooms), called the Upper

and Lower. The ball room in each of them is spacious, airy, and well fitted up. The length of the upper one is 69 feet, breadth 26, and height 26: the length of the lower one is 60 feet, breadth 30, and height 25. The card rooms belonging to each are equally convenient:—and the whole is under the direction of Mr. Rooke; one being his own property, the other rented by him.

By a vote of the committee, 1791, the amusements were appointed alternately, as follows :—

Monday,	- -	Ball, changing rooms weekly.
Tuesday,	- -	Cards.
Wednesday,	-	Cards.—N. B. Grand night.
Thursday,	-	Cards.
Friday,	- -	Ball.
Saturday,	- -	Cards.

Notice of which is painted on a board, hung up at the Pump Room.

The *Monday's* ball is distinguished by the appellation of the *dress ball*.

The band is well composed, and the music receives every aid from the construction of the rooms, which is admirably adapted to it.

It is supposed that Cheltenham possesses in Mr. Buckingham, the leader of the band, one of the first country dance players in the kingdom. This character causing him to be much employed during the season in private musical parties, enables him to support in credit an unusually large family of nine children.

The first Master of the Ceremonies who was appointed at this place was Simeon Moreau, Esq. in 1780. He died in the month of December, 1801, and lies buried, together with his wife, who, in consequence of a melancholy accident, survived him but one month, in a vault in the middle aisle of the church. Mr. Moreau had the honor of attending on His Majesty during his visit here ; and on His Majesty's recovery from the dangerous illness which attacked him soon after, Mr. Moreau caused some gold and silver medals to be struck (of which we have given an account in the Appendix), to commemorate the happy event.

His successor, James King, Esq. the present Master of the Ceremonies, who holds the same situation at the Lower Rooms,

Bath, was soon after chosen ; and has, by his conciliatory manners and conduct, obtained the approbation of the inhabitants, and the liberal patronage of the company.

This gentleman, on coming into office, had many difficulties to encounter : the continued state of ill health, which rendered his predecessor unable to attend the rooms for some years previously to his death, had afforded great opportunities for indecorum ; restraint was at an end, and rules and regulations were but little attended to : however, by Mr. King's unwearied attention to the duties of his office, he has succeeded in introducing order and regularity ; and has, with the consent of the company, laid down the following rules ; which have given general satisfaction, and are henceforth to be considered as the established

RULES OF THE ROOMS.

“ 1. That the books to receive subscriptions at each room shall be put down on the 1st of May : the rooms to continue open on that subscription until the 1st of November.

“ 2. That the winter amusements shall commence on the 1st of November, and end the 1st of May.

“ 3. That the public amusements for the summer season be as follow :—

Monday, ball.

Tuesday, cards (and theatre.)

Wednesday, dress card assembly.

Thursday, cards (and theatre.)

Friday, ball.

Saturday, cards (and theatre.)

The amusements to be alternate at each room.

“ 4. That a subscription of one guinea to each room shall admit three of a family to the balls: single subscribers, half-a-guinea.

“ 5. That a subscription of 5s. for gentlemen, and 2s. 6d. for ladies, shall entitle them to free admission on the card nights, and for walking in the rooms at other times.

“ 6. That non-subscribers do pay 2s. 6d. on ball nights, and 1s. on card nights.

“ 7. That the balls do begin as soon after eight as possible, and conclude precisely at eleven :—and ladies are particularly requested to give attention to this regulation, that the Master of the Ceremonies may be enabled, by their early attendance, to commence the ball at the appointed time.

“ 8. That a reasonable interval shall be allowed, between the dances, for ladies of rank to take their places. Those who stand up after the dance is called, must go to the bottom for that dance ; after which, should they wish to take precedence, on application to the Master of the Ceremonies, he will give them their place.

“ 9. That ladies be allowed to change their partners

every two dances: and, to prevent any mistakes that might originate with respect to place, those ladies who first stand up shall be entitled to such places as they may then procure for the remainder of the evening, should it not interfere with ladies who claim precedence.

“ 10. That ladies do not admit other couples to stand above them, after the set is formed: and they are requested to continue in their places, after they have gone down the dance, until the other couples have done the same.

“ 11. That gentlemen cannot be admitted to the balls, or Wednesday card assembly, in boots or half-boots; officers in their uniforms excepted.

“ 12. That no hazard, or games of chance, be on any account permitted in those rooms.”

“ The Master of the Ceremonies thus publicly and respectfully requests, that ladies and gentlemen will have the goodness to insert the place of their residence, when they enter their names in the Spa Book; and he trusts that those who do not comply with this request will not attribute it to disrespect, or inattention, should he omit to visit them; as the detached situation of the lodging-houses frequently puts it out of his power to procure such regular information of the arrival of the company, as would enable him to offer those early civilities which might contribute to their accommodation. And, as it is absolutely necessary that no improper company should be permitted to frequent the assembly rooms, the Master of the Ceremonies particularly requests, that all strangers, (ladies as well as gentlemen,) will give him an opportunity of being introduced, before they hold themselves

entitled to receive that respect and attention, which is not more his duty than his inclination to observe.

“ JAMES KING,

“ Master of the Ceremonies.

“ *Cheltenham, May 1, 1803.*”

BILLIARD TABLES.

That the *ennui* of a dull morning may not be felt, the visitor may delight himself with a game at billiards, at one of the rooms built for the purpose.

There are two sets of rooms, and two excellent tables at each; one devoted to subscribers, the other open to non-subscribers. The subscription is 10*s.* 6*d.* for the season. Terms of playing, 3*d.* by day, and 6*d.* by night, for each game, and after twelve o'clock 1*s.* per hour.—At one of these, called the New Rooms, are two

BACKGAMMON ROOMS,

One subscription—the other non-subscription. The gentlemen who subscribe to the billiard room, have, on that account, their own backgammon room, which is attended with no extra expense. Terms, 1*s.*

a setting by day, 2s. by night; after twelve o'clock at night 2s. 6d. per hour.

THEATRE.

One of the peculiar characteristics of Cheltenham is, the happy mixture of London elegance with rural delight: or in other words, the opportunity of partaking of such entertainments as the capital affords in a spot, so truly rustic and picturesque:—where the *routine* of company may be exchanged for the contemplation of nature in her most pleasing form: or the dullness of a gloomy day (when fog or rain absorbs every prospect) forgotten in the cheerful circle of the assembly or theatre.

Mr. Watson, the respectable manager of the Cheltenham theatre, has long been known in this part of the world for his liberal encouragement of dramatic genius. For many years he has been acquainted with the first performers of the day. On *his* boards are sometimes to be witnessed, the powerful pathos of a SIDDONS, and the matchless energies of a KEMBLE!! Whether the higher walk of tragedy, the vocal charm

of opera, or the irresistible humour of comedy be exhibited, still is there a sufficient *corps* to render the performance agreeable.

The first rate London actors find a liberal reception by the manager of the Cheltenham theatre. Hardly a season elapses, but the visitors are regaled with some choice performance, in which the rich notes of Incledon or Sedgewick, or the broad farce of Bannister or Munden, are displayed with the happiest effect. It would be unjust and unpardonable not to notice, with the credit it deserves, the achievements of Mr. Richer (son-in-law of Mr. Watson), on the tight rope. His efforts are here successfully displayed. If the grave and philosophic Dr. Johnson could witness a common fantoccini with pleasure and delight, how much the more should *we* be liberal of our applause in behalf of such a performer as Mr. Richer! Fortune can do little towards unbefriending such a man, since he is without a rival. His skill and agility almost preclude the possibility of an accident: yet there are few, who, while their hands are busied in plaudits, do

not feel their hearts quaking with apprehension.

The present theatre being on too limited a scale for the company that now usually resort to it, Mr. Watson is about building another, on a more enlarged and commodious plan: but his state of health not permitting that active exertion which the management of a well frequented house requires, he has just announced his intention of assigning the situation to Messrs. Ray and Gibbon.

SADLER'S WELLS, OR PUPPET SHOW.

As a species of dramatic entertainment, we must not forget Mr. Seward's exhibition of the Fantoccini, with all the merriment of pantomimic achievements. Mr. Seward has for several years visited Cheltenham with his Sadler's Wells in miniature. The whole apparatus is well got up, and affords a pleasing variety to the more serious and just representation of human nature on Mr. Watson's theatre. The scenery is neat, and painted by his sons. The performance is every night in the week, except Saturday.

However trivial this sort of dramatic exhibition may appear, it is well known that the countenance of many a high lord and lady has been "illuminated with merriment," as Burton observes, "at the drollery of the *tout ensemble*."

CIRCULATING LIBRARIES.

There are three Circulating Libraries in Cheltenham, viz. Mr. Harward's, in the Colonnade; Mr. Selden's, High Street; and Mrs. Jones's, in the same street.

Mr. Harward's.—Of this collection, which, for the number and value of the books, is seldom exceeded in country towns, it may not be amiss to enter somewhat into the detail.

His repository at the Colonnade is well worth the inspection of either the literary man or the loungeur: Divinity, Philosophy, History, *Belles Lettres*, and Novels, are to be seen crowding the shelves, and inviting the hand of each visitor and subscriber. The quarto edition of the best histories and works of science will be found in no inconsiderable variety; the most instructive novels and romances are to be had in a commodious form: and a great number of old

folios, quartos, and duodecimos, of Theology, Greek and Roman Literature, and curious English Tracts, are to be obtained at no exorbitant price*.

The room in which this collection† is con-

* These minutiae would not have been entered into, were we not desirous of impressing on the Reader's mind the importance of old works, though decorated with a *sombre* exterior. There are few modern productions but what are built upon the old : and the value of certain old books, known to collectors and lovers of bibliography, is inconceivably great. We do not wish to make particular references to particular works : but we state, what an Englishman will not be displeased to hear, that the old (and first) folio edition of Shakespeare, printed A. D. 1623 (180 years ago), will produce as much money as will carry a visitor from Cheltenham to Dover in a post-chaise and four, living on roast duck and green peas by the way.

† As we profess not to be blindly partial, we cannot suffer our encomium on Mr. Harward's Library to pass by without some remark on the irregular method in which this valuable collection is arranged. Probably Mr. Harward himself has no time for such an undertaking : but we conceive it would be his duty and interest to employ some intelligent assissant. It is grievous, to find a volume of black letter Law Reports leaning on Stephens's folio edition of the Greek Testament : and the majesty of Lord Bacon, in a quarto dress, insulted by the last duodecimo edition of a modern novel.

tained is spacious and commodious, supported by two pillars towards the end. Besides this repository, Mr. Harward has a shop in the High Street, where there are a great number of modern books, elegantly bound. At this place the daily morning and evening newspapers are to be read, and a great number of gentlemen frequent it for that purpose.

Mrs. Jones's.—Situated in the High Street, facing the Colonnade, contains a very choice and judicious selection of History, Voyages, Travels, Novels, Plays, and a variety of other publications, both French and English. A particular advantage is here to be obtained, from the perusal of the *French and Irish Papers*, which, together with the London and Provincial, are regularly taken in for the use of the subscribers.

Mr. Selden's.—He has an elegant shop in the centre of the High Street, and almost opposite to Harward's. Mr. Selden does not confine himself to books alone: he is willing to afford a variety which shall charm

every visitor. Here is to be seen all the "Nick Nackery" of Bond Street: ornaments for ladies and gentlemen of every description; jewellery and cutlery—Tunbridge toys and perfumery. Here, the old the young, the serious and the gay, may be accommodated to the utmost wish. Greater civility, and a more showly display of articles, is rarely seen in the first rate repositories of the metropolis.

MUSICAL LIBRARY.

Mr. Entwistle, of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, has opened a Musical Warehouse and Library, on the plan of those in London. It is a very great addition to the numerous accommodations, as a complete assortment of ancient and modern productions of the most eminent composers are to be hired.

Piano Fortes and other instruments are also let to hire by Mr. Harward, Mrs. Jones, and Mr. Hale.

SUMMER CONCERTS.

In the course of the season there are generally three or four concerts at the Lower Ball Room, which is admirably adapted to the purpose. They make an interesting morning lounge, as they are occasioned by the exhibition of the talents of some first rate performer, and are attended by the first fashion of the place.

To speak of "small things" after "great," what a luxury is there in quaffing the nectareous draught—inhaling the breezes of a clear atmosphere—and listening to *the rich notes that flow from the hand organ!* The young and the old alike enjoy the treat. How frequently are companies put into good humour by the instantaneous striking up of what is called an *organ grinder!* Whether he play the tender or the sprightly tune, still is the bosom soothed and delighted. It is pleasing to witness an old, well known, sun-burnt character, that one recollects to have seen hundreds of miles off, playing the self same tune. The same ideas that *then* came across the mind, possess it, perhaps,

at the present moment. By an association of ideas, we again experience a felicity which we thought had died away a dozen years ago.

Organ grinders, hurdy-gurdy players, and fiddlers, frequently parade the streets of Cheltenham: the tambarine is also touched by some female hand, which gives a zest to the concert. And while the glass glides glowingly round, and every countenance partakes of the general mirth and good humour, the hand of charity throws a shilling or half-crown to the performers, which gives fresh energy to their exertions, and causes them to drink the health of their benefactors, "with a thousand blessings on their heads."

CHINA WAREHOUSE.

Mr. Cook's China Warehouse claims also our attention: though not connected with the preceding subject, it is, nevertheless, entitled to the notice and inspection at least of the lovers of porcelaine.

We are not called upon to decide the question,—whether *china* or *glass* be the greater ornament? but this we know, that those who are anxious to decorate their

tables with the luxury of the Worcester China Manufactory, may gratify their keenest appetite by the possession of such articles as Mr. Cooke exhibits. There is no accounting for the variety of men's tastes ; or why some collectors of porcelaine prefer the clumsy and insipid productions of China to the delicacy of the Dresden, or the splendor of the British manufactory. For our part, we discover no transcendent excellence in the figures exhibited on Chinese vases and bowls : a woman sitting like a taylor, and picking her ear, is no very picturesque object ;—and a fat unwieldy monster of a man, scarcely able to rise from his couch, without coat or waistcoat, and sometimes shirt, can afford little delicate amusement to those who wish to ornament their houses with tasty and elegant furniture. Notwithstanding, we find these uncouth productions descending as regular heirlooms, from family to family, till they are knocked down for a bad sixpence at the hammer, or treasured in the nursery for the sport and certain destruction of the little ones.

In Mr. Cooke's repository little of the

above kind will be found; but the public may be gratified by the constant display of some of the most beautiful and serviceable articles.

SUNDRIES.

A rich assortment of jewellery is to be seen in the several shops; and, during the season, linen drapers, mercers, upholsterers, and persons in almost every branch, that either necessity or luxury has introduced into this kingdom, flock here, to lay in their claims for some of the spare cash, which is a *sine quâ non* with a visitor at a watering place.

BANKS.

Glocester and Cheltenham Bank,—Messrs. Turner, Jeynes, Morris, and Jeynes; draw on Sir James Esdaile, Esdaile, Hammet, and Co. Lombard Street, London.

Glocester Old Bank,—Messrs. Fendall, Evans, and Jelf, draw on Messrs. Robarts, Curtis, Hornyold, and Co. Lombard Street, London.

Both open at ten, and shut at three.

CHAP. IV.

Cheltenham Spa.

THE SPRING.*

THIS Medicinal Spring, so justly celebrated for its numberless virtues, and so constantly attended by all ranks and descriptions of persons, was first known in 1716; but to what accident the discovery of it may be attributed, it is now, perhaps, too late to inquire. Some say that flocks of pigeons daily coming towards the spring, to feed on the salt which it left behind towards its source, induced Mr. Mason, the then proprietor of the ground, to take particular notice of it; when it was further remarked, that in hard frosty weather, when other springs were fast bound, this alone continued fluid. Others again say, that the virtues of

* We call this emphatically *The Spring*, without addition or distinction, as being the *original*.

this water were first shewn on a horse grazing there; who by drinking at this place, and rolling himself in the grass where the spring oozed out, was cured of a violent humour and other disorders which he laboured under. Whether this is a fact or not, it has long been a custom for gentlemen to give it to their horses that have any humours; they drink it very willingly, and usually receive benefit from it.

The spring was in a meadow, a few furlongs distant from the town, on the south side, about six feet beneath the surface of the ground. The ground was originally the property of Mr. Higgs, of Sandford; but not knowing of a medicinal spring on the spot, he sold it with the adjoining land, in 1716, to Mr. Mason, who discovered the spring, which, for some time after its discovery, was open, and the people of the town and neighbourhood drank of it. In the year 1718, it was railed in, locked up, and a little shed thrown over it.

The first analysis of the water was made by Drs. Greville and Baird, soon after; and, in consequence of the good opinion resulting

from such medical authority, its virtues became more generally known : it was, therefore, sold as a medicine, till the year 1721, when the well was let to Mr. Spencer, at 61*l.* per annum.

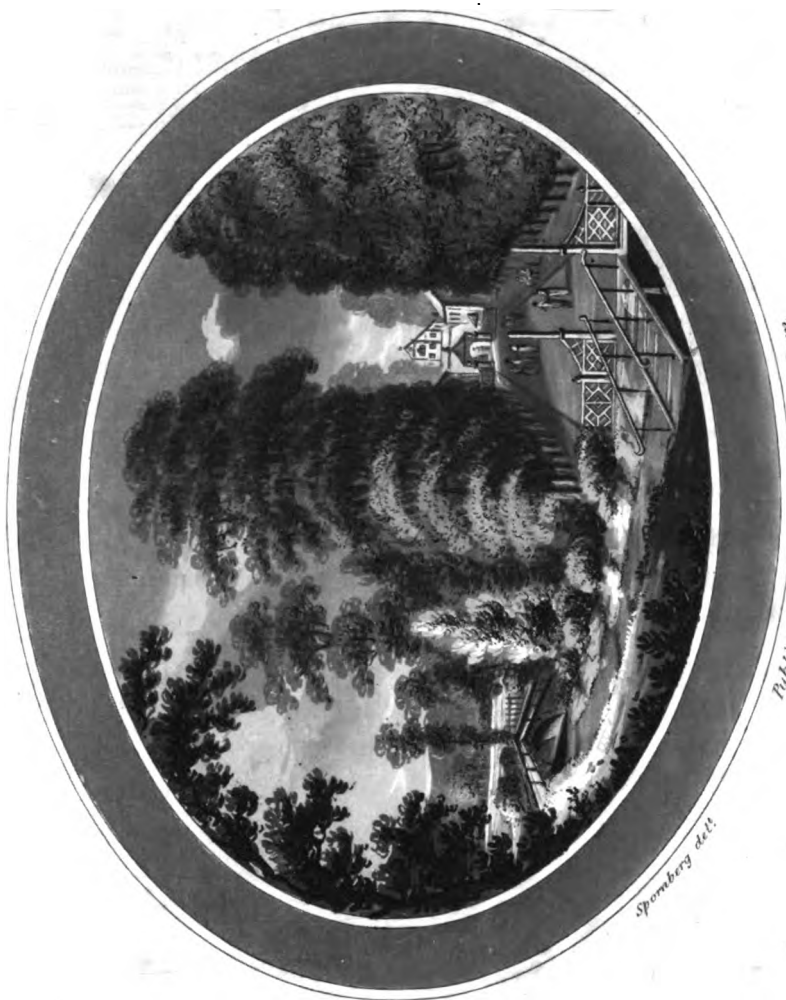
After the decease of Mr. Mason and his son, Capt. H. Skillicorne, father of the late landlord, becoming proprietor of the spring and the premises (in right of his wife, the daughter of Mr. Mason), in the summer of 1738, not only built the old room, on the west side, for the drinkers, with other necessary conveniences, but protected the spring from all extraneous matter, and erected a square brick building, on four arches, as a dome, over it, with a pump on the east side, rising in form of an obelisk. The well in the centre of this dome is about five or six feet below the surface, close shut down with doors, to exclude the freedom of the air. At the same time he laid out the paved court about it, formed the upper and lower walks, planted the trees, and was continually improving the natural beauties of the place, to render it worthy the very numerous and respectable company, which, at that period,

and ever since, resorted to it. The company increased greatly on the publication of the experiments made by Dr. Short, in his *Treatise on Mineral Waters*: where, calling it a *neutral, purging, chalybeate water*, he deservedly gives it the preference to all others of the same kind yet discovered in England.

Before we enter upon the account of the virtues of the medicinal spring, we will just give an outline of the

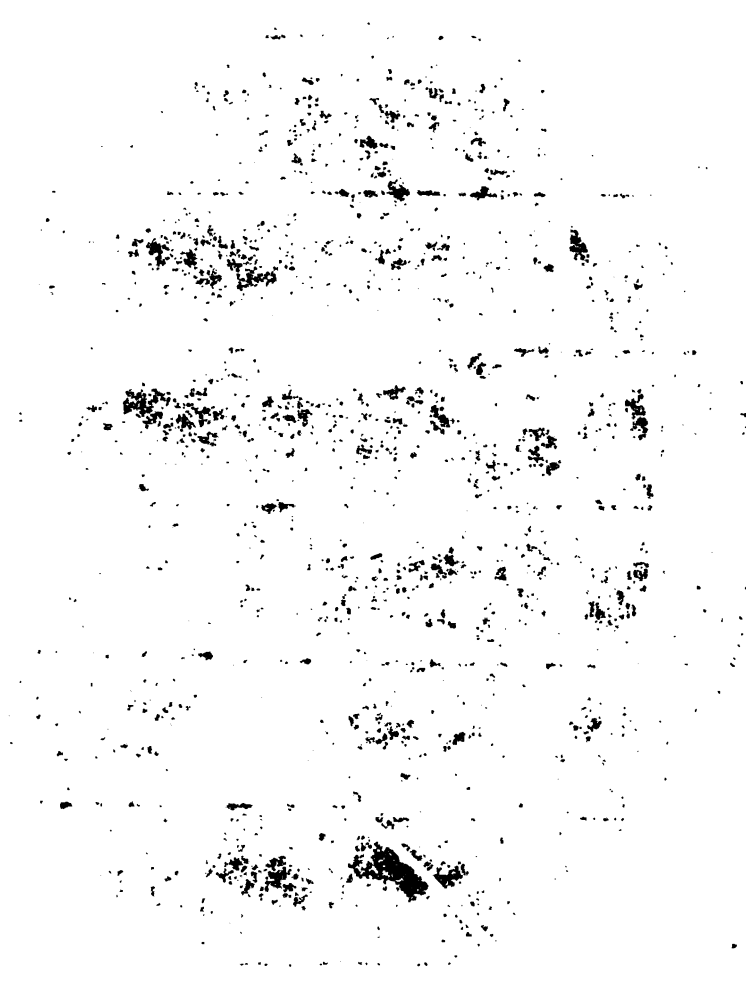
WELL WALKS, &c.

The *walk* leading to the well may fairly be said to commence at the north-east gate of the church-yard; from thence it runs through the church-yard to the south-west gate, between two rows of lime trees. From this latter gate, to the entrance into Church Mead, it follows a serpentine direction, between two quickset hedges, having "the Great House," the largest lodging house in the place, and which was built by the late Lady Stapleton as a family residence, on the right hand, and a pleasant meadow, with some neat lodging houses on the left. Church Mead, through which it then passes, affords



Spomberry del.

Published for Ryff's History of Cheltenham



—

some very picturesque scenery. The views of the Great House and adjoining clump of trees, the church, and the trees of the well walks, serve to render this one of the most delightful spots about Cheltenham: it then passes the river Chelt, over a small draw-bridge, and the view then opens of the grand walk, which, in a summer's morning, is one of the most interesting pictures that can be imagined; whether is considered the overflowing of company, composd of the first character in the kingdom, the distant harmony of the instruments, the fragrance of the air, or the consideration that here is combined, in the highest possible degree, a luxuriance of health, with a profusion of amusement.

The lower, or grand walk, is about 20 feet wide, and so shaded by an uniform plantation of tall strait elms*, at the distance

* These trees were planted by Mr. Andrews, a respectable surveyor of Cheltenham, who died in 1743: and a strong instance is afforded of the healthines of the place, and how greatly conducive it is to longevity, by the circumstance that his widow, Mrs. Andrews, died so lately as May 1803; she was 94 years of age, and had been 60 years a widow. Her mother died at the age of 92.

of twelve feet asunder, as to prevent any inconvenience from the sun in the hottest weather, and is fenced by a quickset.

The walk immediately above the well is equally shaded by a similar plantation of limes; and the uppermost has a grass plot in the centre, with young elms on each side, and a serpentine gravel walk round it, which has in general been thought not of sufficient breadth, and is the only fault that can be found in this spot—the *tout ensemble* of which is not to be equalled throughout the kingdom.

The original design was to have continued the grand walk to the church, if the proprietor of a small piece of ground facing the draw-bridge could have been prevailed on to part with it. Many indeed think its present state more beautiful than such a length of walk, as it now cannot be seen till at the bridge; and the effect produced is therefore much greater. The church spire, rising in the centre of the walk, and bounded by Cleeve Hill, forms a very pleasing point of view from the well; on the side opposite to which a handsome dial with a minute hand

is fixed, to the great satisfaction of the company, who had frequently expressed a desire to have one.

The gradual elevation of the ground from the Chelt to the gate at the entrance of the Serpentine walk, though almost imperceptible, is 33 feet 2 inches.

The following is the exact measurement of the several walks :

	Feet.
From the N.E. to to the S.W. gate of the churh-yard - - - - -	303
From the S.W. to the Church Mead gate - -	318
From the Church Mead gate, across the brook, to the bottom of the lower walk - -	640
The lower, or grand walk - - - - -	597
The pump yard squares - - - - -	32
From the pump yard to the serpentine walk	312
The serpentine walk - - - - -	513

The upper and lower walks are 20 feet wide,
and the others leading to them nine feet.

A few years ago, the Rev. Dr. Walter built a picturesque house, at the upper extremity, called the Grove Cottage, which forms a pleasing termination to the walks, and is now in the possession of S. H. Myers, Esq.

On the east side of the Pump Square is

the Long-Room, built in 1775, at the joint expense of Mr. Skillicorne, the then ground landlord, and Mr. Miller, the late renter of the Spa, for the accommodation of the company while drinking the water. It is 66 feet by $23\frac{1}{2}$ and was used as a ball room for some years. The opposite building is the pumper's apartment, and a warehouse for packing the bottles of water, where the salts extracted from it are sold. The whole is now rented by William Capstack, Esq.

The pumper is Mrs. Forty, who has filled the situation above thirty years, and is deserving of high praise for her readiness, her activity, and unwearied endeavours to gratify the wishes of every visitor, in an office not unattended with difficulties. From her long residence on the spot, she is consequently thoroughly acquainted with the nature and use of the water.

The Spa Room is opened every morning for the accommodation of visitors. The sun has no sooner begun to absorb the cool dews of the morning, and the whole sky to be animated with its warmth and influence—no sooner has the lark ceased his first morning

carol, and the general choir of birds succeeded, than the "busy hum" commences at the well. Between six and seven the walks begin to be filled. From seven till nine they are crowded. Here may be seen a galaxy of beauty, which overpowers even Aurora herself. Here, the sparkling eye—the bewitching mien—the elegant *costume*, which fascinated all beholders at the evening ball—assumes an altered character. The warm glow of the midnight dance is exchanged for the fresh tint of the morning. The brilliant robe, the necklace, the ear drop, and the head dress, are transformed into an easier, a simpler, and, perhaps, more becoming attire.

The visitors throng with avidity towards the water: and such is the general anxiety to imbibe the virtues of this celebrated spring, that many ladies and gentlemen bring their own glasses, for the sake of being more speedily accommodated.

In a temporary box, secured from the weather, the band, consisting mostly of wind instruments, and led by Mr. Buckingham, attends, and performs every morning, from

half past seven, till nine*. The pump opens at seven.

The subscription to the walks and well room is 3s. 6d.† and in case of wet or unpleasant weather, the latter affords a comfortable protection. The same train which

* We subjoin the following, as Mr. Moreau's opinion of the efficacy of music at this place:—"This entertainment generally gives great delight to persons of all ages; and it is highly probable, that such an addition to the natural beauties of the spot may contribute to the operation of the water with greater success: for the spirits being put into motion, and most agreeably touched by the harmony of the instruments, the sensible fibres become more pliant, and the several organs better adapted to the free exercise of their different functions."

† It having been erroneously supposed by many, that this subscription of 3s. 6d. which is exclusively devoted to the repairing the walks, &c. was considered as a satisfaction for drinking the waters also, the present renter of this, and the new well in Bays Hill, on his taking a new lease of the same, at a large premium, gave notice by public handbill, that it was hoped, on this being taken into consideration, that "no one would make use of the waters without making some reasonable acknowledgement, by leaving what they might think proper to give, apportioned in some measure to the number in family, and length of time in making use of the same, with Mrs. Forty."

is to be seen in the walks, then graces the room: and the promenade being more confined, is compensated by the appearance of Mr. Riviere, with his collection of Bond Street jewellery.

In 1781, the late Mr. Skillicorne built a mansion for the Earl of Fauconberg, at the distance of two fields west of the spring, on an eminence, commanding an extensive and beautiful prospect, where their Majesties and Princesses resided during their visit to Cheltenham; since which considerable additions and improvements have been made thereto. It is called Bay's Hill Lodge.

THE NEW WELL.*

A few yards from this house is a well, which was sunk by the command, and at the expense, of the King, during his Majesty's residence at the Lodge, for the purpose of supplying the house with spring water, but it unexpectedly proved to be similar to the

* We call this the *New* Well, as having borne that name ever since its discovery; Mr. Barrett's, mentioned hereafter, is called the New Chalybeate.

old well. This, though it produced a momentary disappointment, has been of the greatest benefit to the town; since, in the height of the season a great portion of the company would inevitably forego their expected gratification, but for this water: the stream of the old well being then generally drawn off faster than it can replenish itself.

A handsome pump room has been built over it; and from the gravelled terrace before it is a beautiful picturesque view of Leckhampton Hill, the old well, and the town, situated in the centre of the range of hills.—A pleasant walk connects the two wells.

We will now proceed to give some account of the

PROPERTIES OF THE WATER.

In 1741, Conradus Hieronymus Senckenburg, of Leyden, published his examination in the "Philosophical Transactions," No. 461, p. 830, in which he confutes the idea of its containing any chalybeate particles. In the same number this opinion is confirmed by Mr. Cromwell Mortimer. Dr. Lucas, in

his Essay on Water, Part 2d, calls it "saline, bitter, and slightly vitriolic," and "certainly impregnated with steel." It has been found, "that by mixing a few drops of the infusion of galls, as twelve to two ounces, that it instantly strikes a pale, but vivid, purple; and, on evaporation, to contain in a gallon eight drams of nitrous earth, with two drams of an alkaline earth: that it consists of a large quantity of calcareous nitre (to which it owes its cathartic qualities), a light sulphur, and a volatile steel. It is not affected by alkaline spirits, but ferments with acids."

It appears, that the reason of Senkenburg's pronouncing it to have no chalybeate properties was, his having made the experiment in London, where the chalybeate particles must have been lost by evaporation during the carriage: indeed this is generally the case where the waters are drank at the least distance from the spring. For this reason, those who wish to receive all the benefit of its chalybeate properties drink it at the well, in small glasses; which answers the purpose much better, as in larger glasses the chaly-

beate property flies off before the whole is taken.

The existence of iron in this water is fully proved by Dr. Fothergill, in his ingenious Experimental Enquiry into the Nature and Qualities of the Cheltenham Water, 1785: where, from the experiment, No. I. with tincture of galls, he produced a vivid purple, which by standing grew darker, inclining to a dusky green, with variegated pellicles on the surface: remarking, that if a glass of the water be exposed to the open air, it entirely loses this tinging property in half an hour, and with it, its smartness on the palate.

GOOD EFFECTS OF THE WATER *.

The peculiar excellency of Cheltenham Water is, the mildness, certainty, and expe-

* The person, who, of all others, owed most to the virtues of the Cheltenham Water, was the late LORD FAUCONBERG; who, by words and actions for twenty years, strongly testified his sentiments of their unparalleled excellence.—This nobleman died in London, March 11, 1802: by his death the earldom became extinct; the barony descended to Rowland Bellasyse, Esq. now Lord Bellasyse.

dition of its operation ; being a very comfortable and commodious medicine for those who do not bear strong cathartics. It does not agitate the blood, or ferment the humours so much as common purges ; is friendly to the stomach, less heating, and less windy, and less apt to leave a *worse constipation* behind it : works off without heat, thirst, or dryness of the mouth, sickness, gripings, faintness, or dejection of spirits ; but rather increases the appetite, and strengthens the stomach : and from its astringent quality it is justly concluded, that it not only dilutes and carries off viscous humours, but, by strengthening the vessels, and restoring the lost tone of the solid parts, it enables them to resist a fresh afflux of the same.

It is particularly efficacious in all bilious complaints, obstructions of the liver and spleen, obstructed perspiration, loss of appetite, bad digestion, and all disorders that affect the *primæ viæ* : in habitual costiveness and obstinate obstructions, the foundation of many chronic diseases, as colics, illiac passion, and herniæ ; for which, when reduced

by boiling one third or one half, and drunk warm, it is superior to all other remedies, and will operate when most other medicines fail. And those who, on long journies, and in summer, are apt to be costive, will, by taking two or three drams of the salt in luke-warm spring water, keep themselves cool and open, and every way comfortable.

It is not our wish to launch out into encomiums which savour more of quackery than truth—but, without the least violation of decorum, we may safely enumerate *many more excellent qualities*, which are inherent in this salubrious spring.

RELAXED HABIT.

It restores a relaxed habit, whether from long residence in a hot climate*, free living,

* The benefit received by many just returned from the East and West Indies in a debilitated state, and their recommendation of this water on the spot to their friends, is the best proof of this assertion: let such, who, from coming down to Cheltenham in a drooping, debilitated, and enervated state, and are set, as it were, upright, by the virtues of this spring—let such hold out to others the strongest exhortation to repair instantly to Cheltenham,

use of mercurials, or any other cause. In rheumatic, scrofulous, erysipelous, scorbutic, leprous cases, but especially in spermatic and hemorrhoidal: in disorders of the urinary passages, and especially of the kidneys, which it cleanses, strengthens, and frees from obstructions; and in those tormenting pains of the hips and lumber muscles, proceeding from a lodgment of hot scorbutic salts, it is a sovereign remedy, and not to be equalled. It gives quiet nights in nephritic and gouty complaints, when not under the fit.

GOUT.

Dr. Musgrave observes, that these kind of waters are particularly adapted to gouty and melancholic subjects, because of the mildness and certainty of their operation; having this peculiar excellence, that they do not, like the drastic purges, agitate the blood, and bring on the gout.

before they suffer their constitutions to be undermined by further luxurious living. As long as Great Britain possesses her colonies in the East and the West, so long must Cheltenham stand a living monument of the virtues of her spring.

FAIR SEX.

In complaints incident to the Fair Sex at an early period, owing to a too languid circulation or other weakness (often the commencement of most fatal disorders), this water should be immediately resorted to, and its efficacy will justify the assertion ; as also to prevent heats, flatulence, inappetence, pains of the back, tumours of the feet, &c. proceeding from a redundancy of blood at a later stage of life ; but in these cases it should be drank long and more liberally, to take off the redundant humidity, and restore the lost tone of the parts.

NERVOUS AND HYPOCHONDRIAC.

Those of strong nerves and firm constitution bear the drinking of Cheltenham water with high spirits, great pleasure, and profit : but it has been said, that it does not suit with persons of weak nerves, paralytic, hypochondriac, or hysteric disorders, or those who are subject to any kind of fits, cramps, or convulsions. " To this remark," says Mr. Moreau, " I must beg leave to differ,

and to assert, that, from my own knowledge, *nervous and hysteric people have drank it with safety*, and even received great benefit, where they have drank the water slowly and cautiously, suffering it to operate as an alterative, not as a purgative. A lady, who for many yeass had been nervous and hysterical, received essential benefit from drinking it in this manner."

CONSUMPTION.

This water, amidst its other beneficial qualities, would doubtless be of service in stopping the progress of consumption* in its

* Dr. Short observes, that these waters, used as a cooling alterative in small doses, greatly relieve consumptions from a slow, wasting, peri-pneumonic and hectic fever: and Baccius says, they frequently cure chronic fevers, and beginning hectics.

These things too often originate from that scorbutic habit, to which an English constitution is but too prone. Let us not deceive ourselves: and to the Fair Sex, let us particularly enforce the precept, of being *cloathed according to the season*. Thin cloathing—improper food—drinking cold liquors when the blood is inflamed by dancing, or any other violent exercise (the whole arising from a common, yet fallacious opinion, among young

infancy ; and even in a more advanced state of it, if applied in due time, might frequently prevent the maturity of the disease. How cruel—how affecting—to witness the regular visits

people, *that nothing can hurt them*), are the parents of numberless ills. A small beginning sometimes has a fatal and momentous ending.—The first symptom is a cold—“*only a cold*”—and “*what,*” said the famous Dr. Jebb, “*would you have worse?*” a cold is the foundation of a thousand disorders: never say you have *only a cold*—much rather say, you have *broke your shin*.”

If the immortal ADDISON could now exercise his pen, he would probably be *no idle Spectator* of thin cloathing among the Fair Sex. How would he notice the sublime *costume* of young ladies going without pockets and petticoats, and pocket handkerchiefs. How surprising is female ingenuity!!

Another error, similar to transparent cloathing is, that of bringing young folks up hardy. That children of a slim and delicate frame, with a still more delicate constitution, should be exposed or treated similar to those of a robust and athletic cast, is as absurd, as a farmer’s putting a colt of the high-bred racing kind into his team, *merely because he is a horse*. Such an erroneous mode of proceeding reminds one of the anecdote of a *philosophical genius*, who was desirous of accustoming his horse to *live without eating*: at the moment he imagined the point was accomplished, *the poor animal gave up the ghost!*

to the Bristol Hotwells! to see the many lovely and melancholy victims that are continually treading the ground, under which they must speedily be laid! We pity a lamb dragged to the slaughterhouse—alas! how much more poignant is our pity, when we contemplate the hourly sacrifice of youth, beauty, and a heart formed for every office of affection!—May these visits to the Hotwells be rendered less frequent by a timely application of the Cheltenham Water! By purging the habit, this water helps digestion, quickens the circulation, and promotes what is so much wanted in this disorder (as well as in all scorbutic habits), regular perspiration: whence the blood is freed from its impurities, by being enabled to throw them out. The warm bath would much contribute towards this desirable end; and is particularly recommended to all those who drink the waters to obtain relief from scorbutic and consumptive habits.

We have thus given the Reader the account of this celebrated Spa, as extracted from Moreau, with a few additions and al-

terations of his plan: but we have it in our power to present him with a *far more valuable statement and analysis of the waters*, as taken from the celebrated Treatise of Dr. Saunders on Mineral Waters (published 1800), in which the Cheltenham Spa is particularly specified. As we conceive *too much cannot be said on this important part of our work*, and as there is no name that would be entitled to more respect and reverence on the subject, than Dr. Saunders, we present our Reader with the following extract from his work, unaccompanied with an apology for its length. The matter we conceive to be most excellent and judicious: the author we know to be a man of skill, science, and reputation; uniting all the amiable qualities of the gentleman and physician.

“The chalybeate spring to which this town owes its celebrity issues slowly, and in a scanty stream, from a bed of sand, intermixed with blue clay. The well is sunk about six feet deep, and excluded from communication with the external air. The sides are covered with a yellow ochre, indicating the nature of the water. The supply of

this chalybeate is calculated to be only about thirty-five pints in an hour : a quantity sufficient to answer the demand in the height of the season, but requires frugal management.

“ Cheltenham water, when first drawn, appears tolerably clear, but not perfectly transparent. It becomes more turbid by standing, and separates air bubbles in a small quantity. It gives out a slight but very distinguishable sulphureous odour, which is more perceptible on the approach of rain. To the taste it shews no briskness or pungency, but is brackish, rather bitter, and chalybeate. The temperature is constantly from 53 to 55 degrees.

“ With different re-agents it shews the following appearances :

“ Lime water produces a turbidness when added to the fresh water ; and the sulphuric and nitric acids disengage a few air bubbles.

“ Syrup of violets is rendered green.

“ Tincture of galls instantly strikes a lively purple, which grows darker by standing, but this property is lost if the water be previously

exposed for half an hour to the air, and it becomes thereby very turbid.

“ Nitrated silver occasions an immediate precipitation of white clouds which soon become dark coloured. Acetated lead produces the same effect.

“ Soap is immediately curdled by this water.

“ When boiled in close vessels, a considerable quantity of air is extricated, which, when examined, proves to be, in a large proportion, carbonic acid. A pint of the water yielded to Dr. Fothergill about three ounce measures of gas, of which two-thirds were absorbed by lime water rendering it turbid, and therefore was carbonic acid, and the remainder was common air, or else azotic gas, united with a minute portion of sulphurated hydrogen.

“ During evaporation, this water at first throws up an earthy scum, which effervesces with acids, and is therefore carbonated lime; and deposits its oxyd of iron. At the conclusion of the process, a large quantity of crystallizable salt is procured, which is a

mixture of vitriolated soda, vitriolated magnesia, and common salt, and several uncrySTALLIZED or deliquescent salts are also obtained.

“ A gallon of Cheltenham water, according to Dr. Fothergill’s analysis, will contain

	Grains.
Of a crystallized salt, composed of sulphated	
soda and sulphated magnesia - - -	480
— muriated soda - - - - -	5
— muriated and carbonated magnesia - -	25
— selenite - - - - -	40
— oxyd of iron, nearly - - - - -	5
	<hr/>
	555

Together with

	Cub. Inches.
Of carbonic acid - - - - -	30.368
— an air, chiefly azot, mixed with some	
hepatic - - - - -	15.184
	<hr/>
	45.552

Total, one ounce, seventy-five grains, for the solid contents; along with a pint and a half in bulk of the aeriform*.

* This analysis as given by Dr. Fothergill, is by no means complete (nor indeed is it pretended to be so), and is especially defective in estimating the quantity both of the iron and the gases. In other respects it may be considered as sufficiently accurate, particularly with regard to the quantity of purgative salts. Dr. Rutt

“ A general survey of the component parts of this water will shew, that it is one which possesses several of the most active of those ingredients which give medical properties to particular waters. It is in the first place decidedly saline, and contains much more salt than most of the waters which we have hitherto mentioned, that of the sea excepted. By far the greater part of the salts are of a purgative kind, and therefore an action on the bowels is a constant effect produced by this medicinal spring, notwithstanding the

reckons the whole residuum at 528 grains, and other chemists vary a little in this respect. A perfectly accurate analysis of this water would be a work requiring considerable skill and attention, on account of the great variety of foreign contents. Allowing, however, that this analysis is tolerably accurate on the whole, it will shew that a much less minute examination will satisfy the physician than the chemist, and that in many cases distinctions may be neglected by the one, which it is the business of the other to establish. It should not be forgotten, however, that there is a wide difference between an imperfect and an inaccurate analysis; and in a class of bodies, like that of mineral waters, where very sensible effects on the human body are ascribed to minute quantities of active substances, the estimation of *those* quantities should be made with rigorous exactness.

considerable quantity of selenite and earthy carbonats, which may be supposed to have a contrary tendency. Cheltenham water is besides a chalybeate; and, if the analysis before us be at all accurate, it is one of the strongest that we are acquainted with. The iron is suspended entirely by the carbonic acid, of which gas the water contains about an eighth of its bulk; but from the abundance of earthy carbonats and oxyd of iron, not much of it is uncombined. It therefore does not give indications of being very brisk, though more so than common spring water. It has besides a slight impregnation of sulphur; but so little as to be scarcely appreciable, except by very delicate chemical tests.

“ Cheltenham water will not keep well, nor bear transporting to any distance, without being materially altered; for the chalybeate part is soon lost by the precipitation of the iron, which takes place, even in the closest vessels, after a few days: the salts, however, remain. If kept open to the air, this water both loses its chalybeate principle, and sometimes becomes fetid.

“ In order to reduce some of the valuable

parts of this water to a more convenient form for carriage and for keeping, the purgative salts are procured on the spot by evaporation and crystallizing the residuum, and sold under the name of the Cheltenham Salts. It is in fact nothing more than a mixture of vitriolated soda and vitriolated magnesia, but the proportion of each is not ascertained; nor is it of any great importance in a medical point of view, since the effect of each is so nearly the same. These salts are much used on the spot, added to the fresh water, to increase its operation on the bowels.

“ The sensible effects produced by this water are generally, on first taking it, a degree of drowsiness, and sometimes headach, but which soon go off spontaneously, even previous to the operation on the bowels. A moderate dose acts powerfully and speedily as a cathartic; but, in common with many other of the largely diluted saline waters, it acts in a very gentle manner, without occasioning griping, or leaving that faintness and languor which often follow the action of the rougher cathartics. It is principally on this

account, but partly too from the salutary operation of the chalybeate, and perhaps the carbonic acid, that the Cheltenham water may be in most cases persevered in for a considerable length of time uninterruptedly, without producing any inconvenience to the body ; and during its use the appetite will be improved, the digestive organs strengthened, and the whole constitution invigorated. I have said that these good effects are principally to be ascribed to the nature and degree of dilution of the purgative salts, since we find the same advantage to attend the use of sea water, or those which I have termed the *simple saline* ; but it cannot be doubted, that the other active ingredients of the Cheltenham water add very materially to its value, and enable it more particularly to combine a variety of salutary operations. A dose of this water, too small to operate directly on the bowels, will generally determine pretty powerfully to the kidneys, and thus the secretion of urine may be in some measure commanded, though less perfectly than the action of the intestinal canal.

“ Cheltenham water is used with consi-

derable benefit in a number of diseases, especially of the chronic kind, and many of them highly difficult of cure*. From what has been said of the medicinal powers of the saline waters, and of the chalybeates separately, some idea may be formed of the method in which such a mixture of these principles, as is found in this water, may be supposed to operate, and of the cases to which it is peculiarly applicable.

“ This medicinal spring has been found of essential service in the cure of glandular obstructions, and especially those that affect the liver, and the other organs connected with the functions of the alimentary canal. Persons who have injured their biliary organs by a long residence in hot climates, and who are suffering under the symptoms either of excess or deficiency of bile, and an irregularity in its secretion, receive remarkable benefit from a course of this water, judiciously exhibited. Its use may be here con-

* See a pamphlet, entitled *Observations on the Nature, Use, and Abuse of the Cheltenham Water*, by J. Smith, M.D. 1796.

tinued even during a considerable degree of debility ; and, from the great determination to the bowels, it may be employed to great advantage to check the incipient symptoms of dropsy and general anasarca which so often proceed from an obstruction in the liver. All the effects which mineral waters can produce in such diseases may probably be commanded by the two springs of Cheltenham and Bath ; but as the operation of these two differs very essentially, some judgment must be exercised in each individual case, to determine in what manner the use of each must be regulated. Often too it is necessary to employ the warm bath externally, during the course of Cheltenham water, and this town is very well accommodated in this respect with artificial baths of any temperature.

“ Among other chronic disorders that are much relieved by the Cheltenham spring, we must enumerate a variety of scrofulous affections, in different parts ; but as these often require the assistance of external application, the sea has certainly here a very decided preference.

“ Another class of diseases in which the advantage of Cheltenham water is constantly experienced, is in some of the most distressing and painful affections of the skin, of the kind usually termed scorbutic eruptions; that arise often without any very obvious cause; that chiefly depend on the habit of body, and make their appearance at stated intervals in painful ulcerations on the skin, producing a copious acrid discharge of lymph, and an abundant desquamation. In common with other saline purgative springs, this is found to bring relief in these most harassing disorders, but it requires to be persevered in for a considerable time, keeping up a constant determination to the bowels.

“ Whilst the chalybeate ingredient of this water probably assists considerably in enabling the constitution to bear without debility a greater degree and a longer course of evacuation than most other medicines of this kind, it seems, however, probable, that this circumstance will alter, and somewhat impair, the benefit which would arise from the iron alone; so that the Cheltenham wa-

ter cannot be used in every case where a simple chalybeate water is indicated. There are some constitutions which are naturally languid, or debilitated by disease, but which do not shew any marks of obstruction, or those symptoms that have been attributed to acrimony in the fluids; and these cannot bear with impunity any constantly increased operation on the bowels. This shews therefore the necessity of some caution and judgment in the use of this spring. It is likewise often a question of some moment, whether the patient should use the water so as daily to increase in a small degree the natural evacuations from the bowels, or whether he should drink it only at intervals, and in larger doses, so as to be briskly purged. These are circumstances, which, I think, are not always attended to sufficiently by the greater number of invalids, and would require the judgment of a professional man on the spot.

“ It is an advantage attending these saline waters, that they may be used at once, without any preparation; nor is any other medicine often required during their use,

except, as has been already mentioned, the occasional addition of the crystallized salts, where the water itself does not prove sufficiently active to the bowels; and likewise the use of the warm bath in several of the cases, and more especially the diseases of the skin.

“ The season for drinking the Cheltenham water is during the whole of the summer months; and in such a course of medicine the circumstance of season is probably of some consequence. The water should, if possible, be always drank at the fountain head, and never kept long exposed to the air. It might, however, be cautiously warmed in close vessels, when its coldness would prove offensive to the stomach of the patient. The dose must vary considerably, both from the great difference of the action of purgatives in different habits, and from the intention with which the water is given. Half a pint of the water is sufficient for a single dose; and this, repeated three or four times during the day at proper intervals, is generally enough to produce the desired

effect on the bowels. Half a pint will contain half a dram of neutral purging salts, four grains of earthly carbonats and selenite, about one-third of a grain of oxyd of iron; together with an ounce in bulk of carbonic acid, and half an ounce of common air, with a little sulphurated hydrogen."

GENERAL RULES AND OBSERVATIONS.

It would be impossible to prescribe with accuracy what quantity ought to be taken by people of different constitutions: some can only bear two or three glasses in a morning, while others drink three or four; and even so far as seven or eight half-pints before breakfast. As to the time of drinking them, some stay only a fortnight or three weeks, but the usual stay is five or six weeks; though some have taken them for ten weeks, or even longer: for after having despaired of success at first, they have, by perseverance, wrought the wished-for cure. This proves the necessity of consulting the faculty occasionally; who, on the spot, may give advice accordingly with respect to the symptoms, and the propriety or impropriety of prolonging the

H

residence. In the mean time, the following general heads may be observed in addition to what has been said.

Begin moderately, by taking a half-pint glass going to bed, it having the peculiar quality of lying all night in the body without disturbing it, or impeding rest ; but goes off the next morning with great facility especially if the first glass drunk at the well has the chill taken off for a few days, till the stomach becomes accustomed to it. If a small quantity on the first morning should not have the desired effect, as may sometimes be the case before the foulness of the passage is removed, the next morning half an ounce of salt extracted from the water, may be taken, dissolved in a small glass of it ; drinking one or two small glasses with the chill off, at proper periods, after it : thus the body will be gradually prepared, and the quantity gradually increased, till its operation, as a cathartic, is found to have the desired effect.

A good method would be, when obstructions are removed, to drink the waters three or four days as a purgative—then a day or two in smaller quantities—then return to the

purgative — sometimes you may omit to drink any. This will be likely to be more efficacious than the present mode of drinking it in large quantities every day for a month or six weeks, which has been known to do harm. You had better give the stomach some relaxation, in order to judge of the benefit you receive.

They who intend to remain at the spring about five or six weeks, generally suspend drinking the water for a few days after the first fortnight ; during which, an excursion to some of the places hereafter described, is found not only a very pleasing but salutary diversion. It is proper, for every one who begins slowly, to conclude in the same manner ; so as not to miss the use of it on going away ; and some pint bottles of the water may be brought away—thus to relinquish it by degree.

PROPER SEASON.

The proper season for going through a course of this water, is the latter end of the spring, all the summer, and the beginning of autumn : as the sun, then remaining longer

on our horizon, gives a warmth and temperature to the air, which, in these months, being generally serene, dry, and light, recreates the spirits, and disposes our minds to that state of tranquillity so conducive to give the water a fair chance of success in its operation: besides which, the drinkers being hereby excited to walking, and other exercise, a moderate warmth ensues; whence perspiration is promoted; and we are not so easily affected by the cold impulse of the water, but rather drink it with satisfaction and some degree of desire.*

The water may, however, be taken occasionally in the winter at a distance from the spring, provided it be warmed, and care taken not to expose one's self to the cold air during its operation; which will be still

* The Germans say you should not drink mineral waters in those months which have an *r* in them; thereby insinuating, that May, June, July, and August are to be preferred: but September and October (when the weather be dry, warm, and serene) are equally proper for drinking them; and families frequently stay at Cheltenham in November and December, without finding any ill effects from the use of the waters at that period.

stronger and more immediate, if the bottled water be boiled gently till one-third of the quantity be evaporated.

The Cheltenham water is recommended as an excellent preparative to drink that of Bath, as also the Buxton bath and water, as to warm sea bathing at Weymouth and elsewhere; and they who come with an intention of drinking it as such, would be more likely to benefit by its salutary properties, if, before they begin they would take two or three (*bains de santé*) baths moderately warm, merely for health, to cleanse the skin, being careful however to take a gentle dose of Cheltenham salts, or of some other opening medicine, as their physician thinks best suited to their constitution, before such bathing.

Let not those who are of opinion that drinking the bottled water at a distance is equally efficacious, deceive themselves. That it has great power, even in that state, is not to be doubted, but its operation on the spot will be much more speedy and satisfactory, independent of the change of air and scene, the disengaging of the mind from business,

&c. all which occur to facilitate the desired effect, and are absolutely necessary to obtain it.

The *concluding reflections* of Mr. Moreau on the excellences of Cheltenham Water are as follow :

“ All I have now to add on this subject is, that notwithstanding the very great virtues of this water, it would be the highest presumption to advance, that it is infallible in its operation and effect: yet so indubitable are its powers, that during the 16 years I have attended this place, I have seen above 14000 persons resort to it for different complaints, I have known but *very few who did not reap great benefit from the use of it: and they who have steadiness to persevere, and are careful not to thwart it by irregularities, will, I make no doubt, be persuaded of the truth of what I have asserted.*”

Those who wish to receive the greatest possible benefit from drinking these waters (for it must not be supposed that all have that object in view, many being attracted by the beauties and amusements of the place only), would act prudently in taking me-

dical advice as to the course to be pursued. There are three or four professional men of respectability resident in the town, from whom may be expected that knowledge of the nature and properties of the water, which a long residence must necessarily give.

Physicians of the first eminence visit the place during the season, and, amongst others, Dr. JENNER, who indeed constantly resides here the whole summer. In mentioning this gentleman, and living ourselves in the county of Gloucester, we cannot avoid noticing, though thus slightly, the stupendous discovery for which he stands celebrated, particularly as the benefits to arise from vaccination have now been formally recognized by a Parliamentary Grant; by the foundation of a Society, called the Royal Jennerian Institution, having the Royal Family at its head; and by the united voice of both hemispheres. Did the nature of our work permit, we should feel gratified in giving our readers a sketch of the rise and progress of Inoculation for the Cow Pox,—in doing which we should feel a satisfaction, in the

belief, that we were adding our mite to the general benefit, so fairly expected to be derived from this providential disclosure.

THE NEWLY DISCOVERED CHALYBEATE
WATER.

This spring had been observed for many years to issue out of the side of a bank in a very sparing quantity, depositing in its course a yellow ochery matter. The common people drank it; and it was frequently made use of, and it was thought successfully, as a lotion in weaknesses, and other complaints of the eyes. It was not, however, till the beginning of 1802, that it attracted particular attention, when it was found, upon examination, to be but a small branch of a very copious spring, originating in a meadow within a few hundred yards. Upon sinking a well in a proper situation, it was found to produce at the rate of 130 gallons of water in an hour; a quantity equal to any demand that is likely to be made upon it. Mr. Barrett, the proprietor of it, has built a commodious room for the company frequenting it, and has also laid out neat

gravelled walks to the town, from which it is distant but a few hundred yards.

This spring is one of the simply carbonated chalybeates. From an analysis, it appears to contain a larger proportion of iron than is common to waters of this class ; and the combination of it with the carbonic acid gas is so complete, that it will retain its properties when closely corked in a bottle, which is quite full, for several months. It appeared by experiments made in the month of February upon some of this water, which had been bottled the preceding September, that it contained in combination nearly the full quantity of iron it originally possessed : and the union is so perfect, that the heat of boiling, if not long continued, does not entirely decompose it : nor when it has been frozen, has it lost its properties, for, when again thawed, it will shew the presence of iron, by the application of the usual tests. With respect to its composition then, it appears to be iron, held in solution by the carbonic acid gas, with a small proportion of carbonated lime. The analysis of it has shewn, that it contains less foreign matter

than almost any water of this class with which we are acquainted, while the proportion of iron is much greater. When taken from the bottom of the well, it contains about five times as much iron as the celebrated water of Tunbridge; and about one-fifth more than the Pouhon spring at Spa. The quantity of carbonic acid gas, however, is not nearly so great as in the latter, and to which it is indebted for its brisk, sparkling appearance, and pleasant quickness of taste.

From the experience of those who have drank it, its effects upon the human constitution are very considerable: and there is no doubt, but that, properly directed, it is capable of producing the most salutary effects in many diseases to which mankind are subject.

FREEMAN'S BATHS.

Much stress having been laid on the great benefits to be derived from warm bathing, and every accommodation for that purpose being now supplied by Freeman's Baths, at No. 3, High Street, an establishment long unthought of; we shall here subjoin in ad-

dition a few opinions and facts on the subject, which we have selected from the most respectable authorities.

THE WARM BATH.

If a perfectly free circulation of the blood, brought on and kept up for a certain time, without any violent muscular exertion, and consequently without any expense of strength, be conducive to health, in that case warm bathing must be wholesome; and so far from weakening the constitution, must tend very powerfully to strengthen it.

The impression of a heat greater than that of the part of the body which receives it *, is

* It is to be remarked, that the animal temperature is ascertained by inserting the bulb of a thermometer under the tongue, with the mouth shut, so as to exclude the operation of the surrounding atmosphere; and here it is almost at the same height as it would be if the instrument were introduced within an incision in the flesh, or in any of the cavities of the body; that is, when the person is in health, at about 96° to 98° with little variation. But as the surface of the body is both exposed to the external air, which is generally much lower than the animal heat, and as the skin is the seat of the great cooling process, the excretion of perspiration; the constant evaporation

probably a direct stimulus, and as such it increases the force and activity of circulation in the vessels to which it is applied, renders them full and turgid, and, according to the force of this stimulus, occasions pain, redness, inflammation, serous effusion, or entire disorganization.

Among those nations where warm bathing has been most generally practised, and where the effects of it have of course been best known, no doubts have ever been entertained of its being very beneficial to health; and nobody can doubt of its being pleasant and agreeable in a high degree.

Had warm bathing never prevailed but in certain climates, doubts might be entertained of its *general* usefulness; but so many nations, remote from each other, and inha-

which is there going on renders it some degrees lower than the proper animal temperature. Hence it is found, that the skin receives the sensation of warmth, and communicates this impression, when in contact with water, a few degrees lower than the animal heat; and this too gives rise to some little uncertainty with regard to the precise degree at which the warm bath may be said to commence. We may however reckon this to begin at about 92°, and to rise as high as can be borne by the skin without pain.

biting countries extremely different, not only in respect to climate, but also in respect to situation and produce, and where manners and customs have been extremely different in all other respects, have practised it,—that we may safely venture to pronounce warm bathing to be useful to man.

The warm bath has a peculiar tendency to bring on a state of repose, to alleviate any local irritation, and thereby to induce sleep. It is, upon the whole, a safer remedy than the cold bath, and more peculiarly applicable to very weak and irritable constitutions, whom the shock produced by cold immersion would overpower, and who have not sufficient vigour of circulation for an adequate reaction.

Warm bathing appears to be peculiarly well calculated to relieve those complaints in the bowels that seem to depend on an irregular or diminished action of any part of the alimentary canal ; and the state of the skin produced by immersion in warm water, seems highly favourable to the healthy action of the stomach and bowels. Hence we find, that the natural thermal springs, when

used as a bath, have all acquired a high and just reputation for relieving colics and obstructions in the bowels, when they depend either on a defect of the bilious secretion, or on a directly sedative and paralyzing cause, such as the poison of lead, and similar complaints; and the same effect is produced, though in a less degree, by warm fomentations to the abdomen.

The constitutions of children seem to be more extensively relieved by the warm bath than those of adults; and this remedy seems more generally applicable to acute fever in them, than in persons of a more advanced age. This is probably owing to the greater degree of irritability in the habits of children, a greater tendency to irritation in the alimentary canal, and the very strong sympathy with the state of the skin, which it always shews. Where the warm bath produces its salutary operation, it is almost always, in children, followed by an easy and profound sleep.

The powerful and extensive stimulus of heated water is used to very great advantage in paralytic affections of particular parts;

whether the consequence of general derangement in the circulation, and the alarming relics of apoplexy, or arising from local injury on the spine or the origin of the nerves. In such a loss of nervous energy, where there is already a want of due animal heat in the part affected, and a languid circulation, all external cold is prejudicial, as it will not excite an adequate reaction. But the direct stimulus of heat, as applied by the hot bath, and elicited by friction, is here found materially to assist in the restoration of the diseased part to a state of health and vigor.

THE VAPOUR BATH.

The warm bath is sometimes applied in the form of steam, either generally or partially, and the effects which it produces, are nearly the same as in the form of water.

The vapour bath, though not much employed in England, forms a very valuable remedy in a variety of cases, and from the comparative ease with which it might be employed, it deserves, perhaps, somewhat more attention from the medical practitioner.

In most of the hot natural waters on the continent, the vapour bath forms a regular part of the bathing apparatus, and is there highly valued. In no country, however, is this application carried to so great an extent as in Russia, where it both forms the principal and almost daily luxury of all the people in every rank, and it is employed as a sovereign remedy for a great variety of disorders. In the management of these baths, the bather is first exposed naked to a dry heated room, which strongly raises the arterial circulation, and sometimes causes headach and great thirst: a copious atmosphere of steam is then raised, by which the former symptoms are removed, and violent perspiration brought on; and the whole process (when employed medicinally) is completed by frictions on the body, when adviseable, and by encouraging a full perspiration in bed. The vapour bath is used, particularly in that country, in many symptoms of disorder seated in the stomach and bowels, such as loss of appetite, flatulence, vomiting, colic, and obstinate constipation. In these the bath is often used daily for a

month or six weeks, employing at the same time a temperate diet. In the symptoms of incipient fever, attended with rigor, headach, thirst, and burning heat, wandering pains, and a hard belly, the vapour bath is also made use of, but without the previous heating process, or the subsequent friction.

It is a little remarkable, that this custom of applying excessive heat to the body, and afterwards suddenly bathing in cold water, is found among a great number of uncivilized nations, and is used by them as an universal remedy in almost every kind of feverish attack, as well as in other diseases : and certainly it is one of the most vigorous, and often most efficacious, modes of cure, that could be suggested, but capable of being much misused. The inhabitants of the South Sea Islands dig a hole in the sand, and fill it with red hot stones and sand, and when the latter has become quite hot, they cover the patient up to his neck with it. When he is in a violent perspiration, they take him out and plunge him into the sea ; after which he lies down, well covered, and drinks abundance of hot liquors to en-

courage perspiration, and often rises quite cured of a feverish attack.

THE TEPID BATH.

The range of temperature from the lowest degree of the warm bath, to the highest of the cold bath, forms what may be termed the tepid bath. As the point at which the one ends, and the other begins, is uncertain, and varies according to the temperature of the individual, it is not possible to fix any exact limits to this term ; only it may in general be remarked, that the tepid bath is that which gives the least possible sensation to the skin, and therefore its effects principally depend on the nature of the medium, and less on the circumstance of temperature than in the hot or cold bath. In general, the heat of water which we should term tepid is about 90° ; a heat in which the healthy body will bear immersion for a long time without experiencing any very considerable general effect on the system.

The ingenious Count Rumford, to whom the world is so much indebted for many elegant luxuries, and cheap additions to the

stock of daily comfort, is a strong advocate for general warm bathing, and enters into the subject with that fervor of imagination, and, at the same time, patient laboriousness, for which he is so remarkable. He says, "I am far from wishing to see the baths of Dioclesian and Caracalla rise up in all their splendor in the neighbourhood of London, for I am well aware, that the magnificent and ostentatious exhibitions of a nation of conquerors, and slaves, would but ill accord with the manners of a free, enlightened, and industrious people; but still I cannot help wishing that the inhabitants of this island, and all mankind, might enjoy all the innocent luxuries and comforts that are within their reach.

"I am even jealous of the poor Russian peasant; and when I see him enjoying the highest degree of delight and satisfaction in the rude cave which he calls a warm bath,—without wishing to diminish his pleasure,—I greatly lament that so useful and so delightful an enjoyment should be totally unknown to so great a portion of the human species.

“ Who knows, but that the Russian, in the midst of his snows—with his warm room, and warm bath—may not, on the whole, enjoy quite as much happiness as the inhabitant of any other country? And if this be really the case, what an addition would it be to the enjoyments of the inhabitants of other, more favoured countries, to add the warm room, and warm bath of the Russian, to all their local advantages! When I meditate profoundly on these subjects, it is quite impossible for me not to feel my bosom warmed with the most enthusiastic zeal for the diffusion of that knowledge which contributes to the comforts and enjoyments of life.

“ No person of any feeling can contemplate the canoes, snow-shoes, and hunting and fishing tackle of the North American savages, without experiencing emotions, which it would be very difficult to describe: and the ingenuity displayed by the Russian peasant in the construction and management of his warm bath, is not less striking.

“ Without any knowledge of the principles of pneumatics, hydrostatics, and chemistry, he has proceeded in the same manner,

precisely, as he would have done had he understood all those sciences ; and without money, or the means of purchasing any thing of value, he has contrived, with the rude materials, of no value, which he finds lying about him, to construct an edifice, in which he enjoys, in the most complete manner possible, all the delightful sensations which result from one of the most rational pleasures of the most refined and luxurious nations. And if security in the possession of an advantage adds value to it, how much greater is the security of the Russian peasant in the enjoyment of his luxuries, than the rich and effeminate in the possession of theirs? Nothing is more calculated to fill us with wonder and admiration, than to see how the different situations of man on this globe have been equalized by compensation !

“ The warm baths of the Russian peasants have so often been described, that I dare not take up the Reader’s time unnecessarily by giving a particular account of them. They are, as is well known, what are called vapour baths ; and as those who build them are much too poor to afford the expense

either of boilers or bathing tubs, they are heated in a manner which is equally ingenious and economical. A parcel of stones are heated upon a wood fire made on the ground, and when these stones are hot, water or snow is thrown on them, and the steam which is produced rises up and occupies the inside of the arched roof of the cave which constitutes the bath.

“ Those who enjoy the bath place themselves, at full length, on a bed, composed of small twigs and leaves of trees, on hurdles in the form of shelves, placed round the cave, under its vaulted roof, and above the level of the top of the door way.

“ From this short description it is evident, that the air occupying the top of the cave, and which is heated by the steam, being rendered specifically lighter than the cold air without, by the heat it has acquired, will remain in its place, even though the entrance into the cave should not be provided with a door. A few branches of trees placed against the door way would break the force of the wind, if any were stirring, and the bath would remain as warm as should be required,

for any length of time, even in the most severe frost of a Russian winter, with the expense of a very small quantity of fuel."

After giving a description of the *warm bath* he would construct, if required by a friend who had full confidence in his abilities, and in which, he says, he would adopt, with little deviation, all the principles of the Russian bath. He goes on—

"Those who are disposed to smile at this display of eastern luxury, would do well to reflect on the sums they expend on what *they* consider as luxuries: and then compare the real and *harmless* enjoyments derived from them, with the rational and innocent pleasures here recommended. I would ask them, if a statesman, or a soldier, going from the refreshing enjoyment of a bath, such as I have described, to the senate or to the field, would, in their opinion, be less likely to do his duty, than a person whose head is filled, and whose faculties are deranged, by the fumes of wine.

"*Effeminacy* is no doubt very despicable, especially in a person who aspires to the character and virtues of a man; but I see

no cause for calling any thing *effeminate*, which has no tendency to diminish either the strength of the body—the dignity of sentiment—or the energy of the mind. I see no good reason for considering those grateful aromatic perfumes, which in all ages have been held in such high estimation, as a less elegant, or less rational luxury than smoking tobacco, or stuffing the nose with snuff.”

He concludes his treatise on *the salubrity of warm bathing* with a few passages from a modern traveller (M. Savary), who, he says, may be considered as being well qualified to give an opinion on the subject.

“ Speaking of the manner of using the warm bath in Egypt, he says, ‘ The bathers here are not imprisoned, as they are in Europe, in a kind of tub, where one is never at one’s ease. Extended on a cloth spread out, with the head supported by a small cushion, they can stretch themselves freely in every posture, whilst they lie quite at their ease, enveloped in a cloud of odorous vapours, which penetrates all their pores. In this situation they repose for some time, till a gentle moisture upon the

skin appears, and by degrees diffuses itself over the whole body. A servant then comes and *masses* them (as it is called, from a word in the Arabic language, which signifies *to touch in a delicate manner*). He seems to knead the flesh, but without causing the smallest pain; and when that operation is ended, he puts on a glove, made of woollen stuff, and rubs the skin for a considerable time.

“ During the whole of this time the sweat continues to be most profuse; and a considerable quantity of scaly matter, and other impurities, which obstructed the pores of the skin, are removed, and the skin becomes quite soft, and as smooth as satin.

“ When this operation is ended, the bather is conducted into a closet, in which there is a cistern, supplied with hot, and with cold water, which comes into it through two separate pipes, each furnished with a brass cock. Here a lather of perfumed soap is poured over him.

“ After being well washed and wiped, a warm sheet is wrapped round him, and he follows the attendant through a long wind-

ing passage into an external and more spacious apartment. This transition from heat to cold produces no disagreeable sensations, nor any bad consequences.

“ In this airy apartment a bed of repose is found prepared, and fresh and dry linen is brought. A pipe is also brought, and coffee is served.

“ Coming out of a hot bath, where one was surrounded by a cloud of warm vapours till the sweat gushed from every pore, and being transported into the free air of a spacious apartment, the breast dilates, and one breathes with voluptuousness. The pores of the body being perfectly cleaned, and all obstructions removed, one feels as it were regenerated; and one experiences an universal comfort. The blood circulates with freedom, and one feels as if disengaged from an enormous weight, with a sense of suppleness and lightness, which is as new as it is delightful. A lively sentiment of existence diffuses itself over the whole frame, and the soul, sympathizing in these delicate sensations, enjoys the most agreeable ideas. The imagination, wandering over the uni-

verse, which it imbellishes, sees on every side the most enchanting pictures—every where the image of happiness!

“If the succession of our ideas be the real measure of life, the rapidity with which they then recur to the memory, and the vigour with which the mind runs over the extended chain of them, would induce a belief, that in the two hours of delicious calm that succeeds the bath, one has lived a number of years!’ ”

THE SEASON.

The Season was formerly considered as commencing immediately after the King's birth day, though many, to whom health alone was the object, came here early in the spring. It now begins with the month of May, and terminates the latter end of November, embracing both spring and fall. Of late years the town has greatly increased the number of its regular inhabitants, since many respectable families, attracted as well by the amusements of the place as the salubrity of the air, have taken up their residence here. And it would not be deviating from

trnth to say, that what may be termed winter visitors are now almost as numerous as the summer ones were *long after* Cheltenham emerged from obscurity.

We shall conclude this chapter with a statement, which we believe to be as correct as the nature of it will allow, of the numbers that have resorted to the place for the last twenty-two years.

STATEMENT.

<i>Years.</i>	<i>Visitors.</i>	<i>Years.</i>	<i>Visitors.</i>
1780 - - - -	374	1792 - - - -	1560
1781 - - - -	500	1793	Of these years no particular account can be obtained, but it is believed the average number was about 1700
1782 - - - -	460	1794	
1738 - - - -	560	1795	
1784 - - - -	650	1796	
1785 - - - -	910	1797	
1786 - - - -	1140	1798	
1787 - - - -	1320	1799	
1788 - - - -	1550	1800	1860
1789 - - - -	860	1801 - - - -	
1790 - - - -	1100	1802 - - - -	
1791 - - - -	1350		2038

It appears from the above, that the celebrity of Cheltenham increases with its buildings and accommodations; and as the extensive benefits of its waters become more known, so does the confidence become more rational—that the basis on which it is founded

will be durable, and that it will survive the fame of many places, which have been upon too slight grounds put in comparison with it*.

* We cannot conclude our account of the town without noticing a publication called "The Cheltenham Guide, or Memoirs of the B—n—r—d Family continued," and which ran through five editions the year it was first published (1781), but has not since been reprinted. This *latter* circumstance by no means creates our surprise: the work is in verse, and professedly built on that unrivalled performance, "The New Bath Guide," and had we discovered any *family likeness*, or any amusement for our readers in it, we should have freely quoted from it.

We have now also before us a similar work, called "Cheltenham, a Fragment," published in 1780, but the same reasons prevent our saying more of this than we have of the other.

CHAP. V.

Vicinity of Cheltenham.

RIDES.

THE most usual ride formerly was in and round the Marsh, a large common meadow on the north side of the town, about a quarter of a mile from it; but the great improvement in the roads, and the much greater variety they afford, had caused this spot to be less frequented long before it was inclosed, which has been lately done by an Act of Parliament.

RIDE TO PRESTBURY, SOUTHAM, POSTLIP,
WINCHCOMB, AND SUDLEY CASTLE.

As soon as you have left the town, by going down Winchcomb Street, and are arrived at the turnpike, a fine expanse breaks upon you: in front, you see the Cleeve Cloud hills (about three miles and a half to

their summit), stretching towards Leckhampton, which looks boldly picturesque, on the right. To the left, the lofty Malvern Mountains claim the liveliest attention: and if the day be partly sunshine, and partly cloudy, you will have a rich treat in studying the variety of soft shadows in which they are involved.

After passing the turnpike at the end of the field, the road becomes winding, and sheltered on each side by trees: to the left, at intervals, you catch a peep of the village church of Prestbury, and the elegant mansion of Mr. Capel, which lies, as it were, embosomed in shrubs and trees, and sheltered from the sullen blast by the lofty Cleeve Cloud. The inside of this mansion harmonizes with its outside: the hospitality of its owner forms an ornament brighter than the groves with which it stands surrounded.

On entering the village, you pass by a road on the left, leading to Mr. Capel's, and the Rev. T. Welles's, rector of the place. Mr. Higgs's neat box is the first on the left hand: and following the winding of the road you have a view of the whole village. On

the right, nearly opposite the King's Arms, is a large brick house, the residence of Thomas Baghott, Esq. There are several other very pretty houses, some of them let as lodgings, and which frequently receive a portion of the overflowings of Cheltenham.

At the back of the road, on the left, is a curious tea drinking place, called

THE GROTTO,

where dinner parties also are accommodated. The ground it occupies is small and confined; for the temples, &c. erected upon it, might, with common ingenuity, and more room to work in, have filled up and embellished a considerable space. At the top of the garden, on a raised terrace, is a Chinese temple, surrounded by a covered balcony. On the one hand is a circular rustic building, fancifully decorated with shells, fossils, and stones, from the neighbouring hills—on the other, a stone tower, from the top of which is a pretty prospect of the neighbourhood. The buildings were erected, and the gardens laid out, by a former proprietor, who is said to have shortened his life by the fatigue it

occasioned. The garden abounds with shrubs and flowers, and the whole, aided by the attentions of Mr. Rooke, the present proprietor, will afford a placid evening's entertainment.

About a mile from the village, on the right, situated under the brow of the hill, and embosomed in trees, is Hewletts, the seat of James Agg, Esq. formerly the residence of Mr. Baghott. From the house is a most beautiful and extensive view of the vale, variegated with towns and villages, and bounded by the Welsh Mountains.

On leaving Prestbury, you turn to the left, following the main road, which carries you towards Cleeve Cloud. The mountain now assumes a more determined form: you see it, midway, skirted with brambles and trees; and, towards the summit, coated with rock and chalk stone. The little meadow on the right forms a simple but pleasing foreground. If the sun be out, the whole landscape is particularly interesting. Pursuing your route, you pass an ancient mansion on the left, called—

SOUTHAM*,

the residence of the DE LA BERES. The very ancient mansion at Southam, says

* Southam is a large tithing in the parish of Cleeve, wherein Thomas Baghott De la Bere, who is lord of the manor, has a seat, and a very fine estate.

This manor was held of the church of Worcester by the De Bohun's, Earls of Hereford, for several descents; was inherited by the Staffords Dukes of Buckingham; and having merged in the dutchy of Lancaster, was granted by King James, 1608, to Robert Cecil Earl of Salisbury; who, in October, 1609, sold all his interest in Southam to Richard De la Bere, of Lincoln's Inn, Esq. who, dying without issue, in 1635, left Kinnard De la Bere, of Kinnersley, in the county of Hereford, his heir. Kinnard De la Bere dying without male issue, he, in 1735, devised this manor and estate to William Baghott, of Prestbury, Esq. son of his sister Ann, who, in pursuance of his uncle's will, assumed the surname and arms of De la Bere, and by Hester, daughter of Thomas Stephens, of Lippiat, Esq. left Thomas Baghott De la Bere, Esq. the present possessor.

The family of De la Bere accompanied the victorious William the Conqueror, and obtained a settlement at Kennersley, in the county of Hereford, where they resided in great splendor. They were connected with some of the first families in the kingdom: and from their relationship with the Talbots, Scudamores, and Hud-

Mr. Bigland, was originally detached from the manor. The house is a great curiosity;

dlestones (particularly the last), they were induced to migrate into this county, and settle at Southam.

The family of De la Bere is descended, through females, from William King of Scotland, and united with the line of Plantagenet.—Stephen De La Bere married Matilda daughter of Thomas Pye, by whom he had a daughter, Joan, who became the wife of Humphrey Bohun, Earl of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton, and Constable of England, by whom she was mother of two daughters, Eleanor and Mary: the former married to Thomas Plantagenet, surnamed of Woodstock, son of King Edward III. and uncle to King Richard II. Mary married to Henry Plantagenet, surnamed Bolingbroke, who was saluted King of England by the name of Henry IV. and from this marriage was born King Henry V.

In consideration of Sir Richard De la Bere having rescued Edward the Black Prince at the battle of Cressy, he was created a banneret on the field of battle; and for this signal service Edward III. gave him for a crest, five ostrich feathers, issuing out of a ducal coronet, which has been ever since borne by the family.

The present occupiers of this venerable mansion are, Mr. De la Bere, Mr. R. De la Bere, bachelors, their sister Mrs. Webb, and two maiden sisters. The Royal Family, who passed an hour here during their visit to Cheltenham, were much gratified with their réception, and the

it is certainly the oldest mansion in this county; and has been declared, by able antiquaries, to be of as long standing as, and to contain more of the original form than, any in the kingdom. It is constructed with two stories only, without a parapet. Kinnard De la Bere, Esq. married Ellen, daughter of Sir John Huddleston*, of Melholme Castle, in Cumberland, who built this house, and was sheriff of this county in 1501, in the reign of Henry VII. by whom he was much respected. Embosomed in a sort of valley, compared with the neighbouring range of hills, it looks to the Cleeve Cliff (of 630 feet perpendicular height) for

King recognized in Mr. De la Bere the true English country gentleman.

* The accurate Leland mentions Southam twice in the course of his Itinerary:—"Here dwellith Sir John Hodleston, and hath builded a pretty mannour place. He boughte the land of one Goodman.—Southam longid to one Goodman, now to Huddlestane."—*Vol. 8, p. 34.*

The curious floors, old paintings, &c. (which the hospitable owner readily shews to a recommended stranger) are well worthy the attention of the lovers of antiquarianism and taste.

shelter and protection. With no house immediately contiguous, it seems the venerable abode of quiet and solitude. The vast sweep of country that lies below, stretching into Worcestershire and Herefordshire, may be contemplated with delightful effect. The village of Prestbury, lying on the left, with the simple tower of its church rising from the trees, affords a pleasing feature in the surrounding landscape. Having feasted your fancy on this venerable and sequestered spot, and calling to mind those ancient days of British simplicity, when every gentleman's mansion was a sort of castle, in which hospitality and festivity abounded: imagining, too, that the bugle horn once sounded at the old castle gate, and is still reverberating along the cliff, you ascend the mountain. As you press towards the summit*, on turning round, an immense prospect stretches before you, terminated by the two lofty mountains near Abergavenny,

* Here are visibly the remains of a large double intrenchment, called *The Camps*, extending 350 yards along the summit of the rock, in the form of a crescent, and inaccessible on every side but the front.

called the Sugar-loaf, and the Skerid Vaür. To the right appear the Malvern Hills—to the left, the chain of the Coteswold; beneath lies Cheltenham, its spire dwindled to a reed: a little further is Gloucester, its lofty and beautiful tower absorbed in the brown tints of the surrounding country: the Severn, to its left, begins to spread to the size of a lake, till lost in Kingroad and the Bristol Channel. Happy the man, who, from an eminence like this, can survey one of the brightest prospects of his native country, with an eye alive to all the beauties of nature—with an heart untainted by a crime, and beating with lively affection towards his God, his Country, and his King. At the top of the hill, on the left, is a bye road leading to Nottingham Hill, about half a mile from the high road. Here for some years back a plate or two has been run for, annually, by horses belonging to the neighbouring gentlemen, and the sport is well attended by the visitors from Cheltenham.

After passing Postlip, a celebrated paper manufactory, and which lies pleasantly, on

the right, in the valley beneath, you come within sight of

WINCHCOMB,

which is about seven miles from Cheltenham. That the Reader or Traveller may not think lightly of this secluded humble place, situated in the bosom of lonesome hills (where the hermit and monk might study undisturbed from century to century), we shall entertain him with a specimen of our antiquarian research: and we beg him not to think lightly of the *ancient* anecdotes of a spot, now the quiet settlement of farmers and shepherds.

The name Winchcomb is derived from *wincel*, which, in the Saxon language, means *corner*, and from *comb*, which signifies a *hill*.

The ancient and wealthy abbey of Winchcomb has rendered the place famous. Offa, King of Mercia, in the year 787, built a nunnery at Winchcomb; and in 798, Kenulph, King of Mercia, founded a monastery in the place of the nunnery, wherein 300 monks of the order of St. Benedict were maintained at the first foundation. This monastery was

dedicated with great pomp to the Virgin Mary, and was consecrated by Wulfrid, Archbishop of Canterbury, and by twelve other bishops, in the presence of King Kenulph, and of Cuthred, King of Kent, and of Sired, King of the West Saxons, and in the presence of most of the great noblemen of the kingdom of Mercia. King Kenulph, in honour of this ceremony, did at the same time release the King of Kent, who was then his prisoner.

King Kenulph endowed the monastery with great revenues. He gave them the manors of Sherborn, Honiwood, Almington, Twining, Staunton, Charlton Abbots, with divers other manors and lands. He died in 819, and lies buried in the monastery. Egbert, King of the West Saxons, was likewise buried in the same monastery.

King Kenulph left the care of the education of Kenelme, his infant son, to his daughter Quendred, who was own sister to Kenelme: but the faithless unnatural daughter conspired with Arkebert, governor to the young king, to procure him to be murdered, that she might obtain the crown. Arkebert,

accordingly, under the pretence of hunting, carried the young King into Clenth Wood, and there traiterously cut off his head, and buried him secretly.

To the astonishment of all persons, continues Sir Robert Atkyns, this villainy, so secretly committed in England, was miraculously revealed at Rome; for a dove, flying over the altar of St. Peter, let a parchment drop (wherein the whole account of the murder was set down in golden letters in the English language), which did declare, in order, the whole account of his death and burial. This being writ in English characters, could not be understood by the Italians, nor men of divers other nations who attempted to read it; but very happily *and reasonably* an Englishman was present, who distinctly read that obscure writing, and made it known to the Pope, who, by his apostolical letter, did discover to the English princes that one of the royal blood had been martyred: upon which great multitudes of people were present at the taking up the body of the infant King, and attended it to

Winchcomb *. The wicked sister being surprised at the solemn singing of the clergy, and the great rejoicing of the people, looked out of the window of the dining-room where she was, and by chance sung the psalm "O God! my praise," which she, as one bewitched, sung backwards, beginning at the wrong end, endeavouring to disturb the joy of the solemnity; but immediately, by divine vengeance, her eye-balls fell out of her head, and besmeared the book with her blood, while she was pronouncing that verse, "This is the reward of them who accuse me unjustly before the Lord, and speak evil against my soul." The stains of blood do appear at this day, and manifest the cruelty of the wicked woman, and of God's just vengeance.

So much for this tragical affair. The Reader will no doubt repair instantly to

* There arose a great contention between the inhabitants of Worcestershire and Gloucestershire, who should have the burying of the murdered young King; but it was at last consented, that he should be buried at Winchcomb.

Winchcomb, to view the blood, and to feed his imagination with the poor wicked Queen, reading with her eyes out. This might be made a fine subject for the *modern drama*; but the difficulty lies in procuring a dove to fly over the altar, and to drop the parchment just where it ought to be!

The parish church of Winchcomb, which is a fine old building, was erected by the parishioners, with some assistance from Ralph Lord Boteler, Baron of Sudley, in the reign of Henry VI. It is large, and has an handsome aisle on both sides, covered with lead, and adorned with battlements and pinnacles, with a large handsome chancel and tower. It is dedicated to St. Peter.

Thus have we detained the Traveller with this curious account of Winchcomb: it will, we hope, amuse him, and teach him to reflect, that there are few places, however small in extent, or dreary in situation, *whose history has not been embellished with some interesting fable*. The note which here follows will also afford singular intelligence*.

* Tobacco was first planted in England in this parish, and yielded a considerable produce and profit to the in-

Turning through Winchcomb, on the right, you proceed to

habitants, till 1660, 1st Charles II. when an act passed for prohibiting the cultivation of it, either in England or Ireland. At the same time an act was passed for erecting a post-office, and another to prohibit the exportation of wool and fuller's earth.

The Author of the Cheltenham Guide says, "Tobacco was originally brought into England by Sir John Hawkins, in 1565;" but Sir John Hawkins went to America in 1595 with Sir Francis Drake, and both died in the expedition. Tobacco was not known in England till 1586, 28th of Elizabeth, when a fleet under the command of Sir Francis Drake, and the Earl of Carlisle, general of the land forces, after having, in 1585, taken St. Jago, one of the Cape de Verd islands, and St. Domingo or Hispaniola, in 1586 took Carthagena, and burnt St. Antonia and St. Helena, in Florida; but being dispersed by a storm, part of them keeping on their course along a desolate coast lighted upon some Englishmen, who had planted themselves in Virginia, so named in honour of their virgin Queen Elizabeth, having been carried over thither for a colony, in April 1584, by Sir Walter Raleigh; though the first permanent colony was not established till 1616. Ralph Lane, one of the above, came over with Sir Francis, and was the first who brought tobacco into England; which had been discovered by the Spaniards in Tabaco, a province of Yucatan, in North America, in 1540, and was introduced into France by Nicot, ambassador from Francis II. to Portugal, 1560.

SUDLEY,

which is so called from its southerly situation to Winchcomb. Atkyns says it has its name from *leagh*, a pasture ground, and lying south of Winchcomb.

Sudley was successively the residence of great persons from very early ages. It appears by Domesday Book, that the same family which held Sudley before the Norman Conquest was continued in possession of it by King William the Conqueror; which is a rare instance: but which shews, however, (says Sir Robert) that they must have been false to their country.

Before the Conquest, it was the property of Ralph de Medantine, or Maunt, Earl of Hereford, son of Walter de Medantine, who married Goda, daughter of King Ethelred II. He was also Lord of the manor of Todington, from whom, by intermarriage of his grandson, John de Sudley, with Grace,

Others say, tobacco was so named from Tobago, one of the Caribbee islands, where it grows plentifully. By the French it was called *Nicotiana*.

daughter of Henry de Traci (of a Norman family that came over with William the Conqueror), lord of the manor of Barnstaple, is descended the present Lord Viscount Tracey; William II. son of the above John de Sudley, having taken his mother's family name, had with it this manor.

Harold, son of Ralph, was Lord of Sudley, and his successors took the name de Sudley, or Sudeley.

John de Sudley had summons 28th Edward I. to 13th of Edward II. and died without issue 10th Edward III.

1441, 20th Henry VII. Ralph Botiller, or Boteler, Lord Treasurer of England, was created Baron of Sudley, and rebuilt the castle* (first built in the reign of King Stephen), which he is said to have been enabled to do from the ransom of a French admiral he captured when High Admiral of the

* According to Atkyns, he built the castle out of the spoils which he got in the wars with France: he having been admiral at sea, took Portman, a French prisoner, with whose ransom he built one of the towers, which, from his name, was called Portman's Tower.

British fleet; in the reign of Edward IV. he was obliged to sell it to the crown*.

1st Henry VII. 1485, it was granted to Jasper Duke of Bedford, the King's uncle.

1st Edward VI. 1527, Thomas Lord Seymour (brother to the Protector, Edward the first Duke of Somerset, and to the Lady Jane Seymour, the King's mother) was created Lord Seymour of Sudley; he married the Lady Catherine Parr, widow of King Henry VIII. who died here in childbed of a daughter, Sept. 5, 1548, and was buried with great funeral pomp in the chapel of Sudley Castle†. He then made his suit to

* He was always firm to the Lancaster Line, but King Edward IV. attaining the crown, he was apprehended at Sudley Castle, and brought prisoner to London. Looking back on Sudley Castle, when he came to the top of the hill, he was heard to say, "Sudley Castle, thou art the traitor, not I!"

† There is no heroine in the history of our country who more deserves admiration and compassion, than Catherine Parr: and with justice may we say, there is no character who has received finer traits of delineation. While the name of Shakespeare lives, so long shall the memory of Catherine Parr be beloved. In the play of Henry VIII. that incomparable dramatist has hit off the

the Princess (afterwards Queen) Elizabeth, but without success ; and being attainted, was, on the 20th of March, 1550, 3d Edward VI. beheaded.

5th of the same reign, the manor of Sudley was granted to William Parr, Marquis of Northampton, brother to Lady Catherine Parr. He was attainted 1st Queen Mary, 1553, and the same year the manor and castle were granted to Sir John Bruges, or Brydges (ancestor to the Duke of Chandos), created Lord Chandos of Sudley April 8, 1554, in whose family it continued till George, the 6th lord, marrying Jane, daughter of John Earl Rivers, and having no male issue, gave the manor of Sudley to his said wife Jane ; who, on his death, married George Pitt, Esq. of Stratfieldsea, in Hamp-

character, the feelings, the very soul of Catherine, in a manner so tender and touching—so beautiful and appropriate—so solemn and sublime, that it is with truth Dr. Johnson observes, her character, in its kind of cast, is not exceeded by any that Shakespeare ever drew.

The reflections on such a woman will heighten our feelings in the contemplation of Sudley Castle. Peace to her manes!

shire, ancestor to the present Lord Rivers, to whom the manor and castle now belong.

About two miles N.E. of Winchcomb are the remains of Hales Abbey, erected in 1246, by Richard Earl of Cornwall *, King of the Romans, in consequence of a vow which he had made at sea in an hour of great danger.

* He was second son of King John, who created him Earl of Cornwall, and took for his second wife Senchia, daughter of Raimond Earl of Provence, sister to Eleanor, his brother Henry III.'s Queen.

Their marriage feast was kept in Westminster Hall, and 30,000 dishes of meat were served up to the table. She died in 1261; he in 1272; and their son Edmond, Earl of Cornwall, in 1300; and were all buried here. It was a mitred abbey for monks of the Cistercian order, twenty of whom he brought hither from Beaulieu in Hampshire; and the abbots of this house, and of Hales Owen, in Shropshire, were usually summoned together.

The manor and estate are now the property of Charles Hanbury Tracey, Esq. (by marriage with his cousin, the daughter and sole heiress of the late Lord Viscount Tracey, in whom was an uncommon instance of an estate descending for upwards of seven hundred years, in the male line, in an uninterrupted succession) who is also lord of the manor of Todington, the family residence; which manor came to it as is expressed in the account of Sudley Castle.

RIDES AT THE EAST END OF THE TOWN.

About a quarter of a mile from the top of the street the road divides, the one on the right leads through Sandford Field * to Leckhampton Hill. Before you come to it, on the left, is a large brick house in the middle of a park, the residence of Dodding-ton Hunt, Esq. formerly, and for many years, Chairman of the Quarter Sessions for this county.

At the top of the hill you see, on the right, just under it, a noble stone building, the ancient mansion of the Norwoods †, now

* The air of this field is said to be particularly salubrious, and not unlike that generally experienced in the south of France.

† The Norwoods of Milton, in Kent, became possessed of the manor of Leckhampton about 1500, by marriage with the daughter and coheiress of John Giffard.

This family flourished in Kent in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and was seized of the manor of Northwood, to which 100 burgesses of the city of Canterbury then owed suit and service. And Philpot says, that in the year 1420, King Henry V. with his retinue, were entertained in Sittingbourn (near Milton) by John Norwood, Esq. when the bill for wine, which was one penny

in possession of C. B. Trye, Esq. by devise from Henry Norwood, Esq. the last possessor, who died without issue. From this hill there is a most beautiful view of the vale, extending from Worcestershire, bounded by the Shropshire and Malvern hills on the one side, to Kingroad and Somersetshire on the other; having in the front, Gloucester, Tewkesbury, Upton, &c. the meandering

per pint, amounted to 9s. 9d. Several ancient monuments of this family are in Milton church. This was formerly called "the royal town of Middleton," from being in the possession of King Alfred, who had a palace here. At present it is only famous for its oysters, taken from the Swale.

The late Henry Norwood, Esq. was the lord of this manor, which was held by grand serjeanty of the king, by performing the service of steward at the great festivals of Christmas, Easter, and Whitsuntide, as appears by a record 23d Edward I.; and by their pedigree, the family of the Norwoods have a right to quarter the several coats of arms of Tregoz, Wantham, Badlesmere, Grandison, Hert, Gralle, Elton, and Giffard.

Part of the tithes in Leckhampton, formerly belonging to the nunnery of Usk, in Monmouthshire, was, 22d Elizabeth, granted to John Fernham; which tithes now belong to the impropiator of Cheltenham.

river Severn, and a distant prospect of the Welsh mountains.

About five miles from Cheltenham is Birdlip, where parties may meet with accommodations while they are enjoying the beauties of the prospect. Half a mile before you come to it, at a public house called the Balloon, the old London road from Frogmill to Gloucester crosses, and, descending between the cliffs on the right, makes an interesting foreground to the picture. At Birdlip, the road strait forwards leads to Painswick, Stroud, and Bath ; the one on the right to Gloucester—and that on the left to Cirencester, being the old Roman fosse road.

Seven miles from Cheltenham, and six from Gloucester, is Witcombe, the seat of Sir William Hicks, Bart. From a vista upon the hill, not a mile from the house, which stands in the centre of the valley, is a fine bird's-eye view of the subjacent vale and the river Severn. To the left are seen part of the Forest of Dean, and the Sugar-loaf Mountain near Abergavenny, in Monmouthshire ; in front, the Malvern Hills, in Worcestershire, with the Welsh mountains at a great distance

behind them ; and to the right is a view of Tewkesbury, and of the city of Worcester, near thirty miles distant. Sir William Hicks, Bart. the lord of the manor, is descended from Sir Baptist Hicks.

The left hand division, or rather the road strait forwards at the top of the town, is the Oxford and London road. About $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile is Charlton Kings : on the right is a road by Mr. Hunt's park to the old road to Leckhampton, the Gloucester road, and Seven Springs *. Two miles and a half further is Dowdeswell : on the left is a neat house, of the Rector, the Rev. W. Baker ; on the right, beyond the church, one of Edward Rogers, Esq. ; about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile further on

* The Seven Wells or Springs, in the parish of Coberley or Cubberley, are three miles and a half from Cheltenham, the same from Kilkenny, and four and a half from Frogmill. From the different hills in this and the adjacent parishes the views are most extensive and variegated. These springs form the Churn, and are certainly the highest source of the water of the great river Thames, into which it falls above Cricklade, at the same place with the Isis ; this last only nine miles and a half from its source, but the Churn twenty miles.

the left is Sandiwell Park* ; on the right two roads, to Kilkenny and Gloucester ; on the left, a road to Stow-on-the-Wold ; a little further, on the left, a road to Whittington ; one mile further is Frogmill, a most comfortable house, and much frequented by dinner and pleasure parties ; $6\frac{3}{4}$ miles further is Northleach.

Before you enter the town, on the left, is another of the gaols erected in this county, for the purpose of solitary imprisonment.

* Sandiwell, in the parish of Dowdswell, about three miles and a half from Cheltenham, was the seat of the late Mrs. Tracy, relict of Thomas Tracy, of Stanway, Esq. who purchased it, with the lordship of the manor of Whittington, of the Earl of Hertford. He was descended from John the third Viscount Tracy, to whose youngest son, Ferdinando, Sir John Tracy, the 5th and last Baronet of Stanway, 1677, left that manor, which that branch of the family had been in possession of many years.

Mrs. Tracy caused a very elegant monument of fine marble to be placed in the parish church of Whittington, in memory of her said husband (who was a representative of the county of Gloucester in two Parliaments), and their son Dodwell Tracy, named after his mother's family, she being the daughter of the late Sir William Dodwell.

For any information on this subject, we refer our reader to our description of the one at Gloucester.

Here is a Free Grammar School endowed by Hugh Westwood, Esq. which we should not have noticed, but that it has attached to itself the story told of so many similar foundations, viz. that the founder being reduced in the latter part of his life, and requesting of his own trustees to be appointed master of his own school, was refused.

The church is a large handsome building, dedicated to St. Peter; it has a noble tower, with six bells, at the west end, and a very handsome porch at the south entrance.

About three miles from Northleach, on the left, and 18 from Cheltenham, is Shireborne, the seat of Lord Shireborne; and which is visible from the road.

RIDES AT THE WEST END OF THE TOWN.

About $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile on the left is a neat snug box, called the Moors, let in the season as a lodging house; strait forwards a bye

road* to Arle†; on the right the high road to Gloucester; about one mile and five fur-

* Down an easy descent, on the south side of the road to the left, is a spring of purging water, rising perpendicularly in the middle of a ditch, filled up with sedge and weeds, where the common water oozes, runs into, and mixes with it; therefore no just estimate can be made of the quantity of its fixed parts, though, according to Dr. Short, it contains nitre and alkaline earth. The salt is full as bitter and purging as that of the Hyde, near Prestbury; but the water is neither so clear, pleasant, nor brisk as the other, because of its mixture with the ditch water. The salt is not calcareous, and is the same with astrope both in colour and crystals. Dr. Fothergill, in his *Experimental Enquiry into the Nature of the Cheltenham Water*, says, this spring was opened for his inspection, and proved to be nearly of the same temperature as that of the spa, though exposed to the air. It strikes purple with galls, and deposits a rich ochery sediment; but his time would not admit of further experiments.

† Arle Court anciently belonged to a family that took its name from this place, from whom it came to Robert Grevil, by marriage with one of the daughters and co-heiresses of John Arles, and by marriage of a female heir of the said Greville into the Lyggon family; and in like manner to Sir Fleetwood Dormer, who married Catherine daughter of John Lyggon, who was only son

longs from the market-house is Bedlam ; on the left the road to Gloucester, on the right to the village of Swindon ; strait forwards to Tewkesbury, Upton, Malvern, and Worcester.

After turning to the left from Bedlam, about a mile and a quarter, is Haydon Hill ; at the bottom is a public house, and a summer-house in a tree. Nine miles and three furlongs from the Market-house, at Cheltenham, is Gloucester.

of Richard Lyggon, of Maddersfield, in Worcestershire, by his second wife Margaret daughter of John Talbot, Esq. of the Shrewsbury family. Judge Dormer was the proprietor of this estate some time since the beginning of the last century, and was succeeded by the late Mrs. Catherine Dormer. It was late in the possession of the Right Hon. the Earl of Hardwicke.

CHAP. VI.

Excursion to Gloucester.

GLOUCESTER, in its present state, is a neat and handsome city ; having been much improved within these few years, by the taking down of several public and other buildings, which were great nuisances in preventing the free circulation of air ; and at times very dangerous to travellers and carriages passing by.

From the middle of the city, where the four principal and spacious streets meet, there is a descent each way, which renders it not only clean and healthy, but adds considerably to its picturesque beauty. The ingenious artist will discover many specimens of street scenery in his ramble through the town.

The river Severn flows on the west side of the city, where is a convenient quay. It is the first port on the river that has its pro-

per officers ; viz. a customer, collector, comptroller, searcher, surveyor, and two boatmen. This privilege was granted by charter by Queen Elizabeth, in the 22d year of her reign.

The buildings are chiefly of brick ; and great credit is due to the inhabitants, who have done much in improving the beauty of the place, by rebuilding some houses, and new fronting others, in a style of modern neatness and regularity. It must, however, be confessed, that the overhangings of many houses, and the placing of boards over cellar entrances, are nuisances which call aloud for remedy. In this respect, the neighbouring city of Worcester has set Gloucester a laudable example. The streets, from the taking down the public and other buildings, which were situated in the middle, or otherwise extending far towards the centre, are now wide and commodious, and are an additional means of health to the inhabitants.

The perambulation of the town is about three miles. In 44th of Edward III. it was as follows :—From the West Gate to the Cross in the middle of the West Bridge (the

meadows of the Abbot of St. Peter's on each side of the bridge excepted); then from the river Severn, within the little gate towards the east, between the meadow of the Archdeacon and the garden of the Bartholomew's to Little Severn, and so from Little Severn to Tulliwel Brook, over which there is a bridge with iron bars; thence from the highway to the gate of the Monk's garden, with the lane called Feate Lane, to Newlands, by marks and bounds, as appears by stones fixed; thence to the Southgate, to the limit there, the inn excepted, with the houses and lands on the other side; thence from Rigley Stile to the tenements of the Abbot of St. Peter's; thence to the lane called Severn Street, to the Key at the end of that street, the King's castle and the meadows excepted, as it appears by the extent of the city in the treasury of the Kings of England. And, to prevent disputes, great stones, with C. G. cut on them, are now set up at the limits thereof.

The following persons are, by charter or prescription, officers in the city of Gloucester:—The Mayor, who is also clerk of the

market, and the marshal and steward of the King's household when his Majesty is in the city; the High Steward, commonly a nobleman; the Recorder; the two Members of Parliament; the twelve Aldermen, out of whom the Mayor is chosen, who, at the end of his mayoralty, is generally the Coroner, and President of the Hospitals; the Town Clerk; the two Sheriffs, chosen out of the common-council; the Common-Council, in number 26; the Treasurer; the Chamberlain; the Sword-bearer; the twelve Constables for the four wards, four for the West, four for the North, two for the East, and two for the South; the four Serjeants at Mace, two for the Mayor, and one for each Sheriff; the Crier or Day Bell-man; a Water Bailiff; four Porters; a Night Bell-man and Gaoler; a Beadle, and Provost Marshal.

Glocester had a beautiful and lofty High Cross, much admired, upon which were several statues. It was built in the reign of King Henry VII. but was taken down by Act of Parliament, 23d George II. on account of its interrupting the passage for

carriages ; being situated in the centre of the four principal streets.

The streets are well-paved and lighted ; the names of the four principal are as follow :—The Westgate Street, the Northgate Street, the Eastgate Street, and the Southgate Street.

The principal street is the Westgate, the lower part of which is called the Island, or Between the Bridges : it is 938 yards long, from the top of the street to the Westgate. In this space are two bridges : one called the Foreign Bridge (vulgarly and corruptly called Farthing Bridge), supposed to be so named from its being outward, near the west end of the town. Very anciently what was beyond, was said to be *beyond the Bridge* ; and even in the reign of King Henry VIII. Bartholomew's Hospital is mentioned as so standing.—The other, called Cole Bridge, a little below Bartholomew's Hospital, of one arch, which serves to drain the meadows. In and before the 6th of Edward II. it was termed Ebrug Street ; as it also appears by several records and evidences since that time.

The Eastgate Street is 294 yards long from the crossing to where the Eastgate stood. It was anciently called Hailsgate, or Ailsgate Street ; and was sometime known by the name of Jury Street, or *Judaismus*, on account of the Jews, many of whom settled here.

The Upper Northgate Street is 180 yards long, from the crossing of the streets to where the Northgate stood.

The Southgate Street is 391 yard long to where the Southgate stood.

There is a number of other streets within the city, as well leading into the four principal streets, as adjoining them.

There are buildings extending considerably beyond the ends of the principal streets, except the Westgate : at the end of that, and adjoining the West Gate, (which is the only one now standing,) is a Bridge, of five arches, over the Severn : it was built in the reign of King Henry II. From this bridge there is a lofty and extensive causeway of stone, thrown up across the Isle of Alney, called Over's Causeway. In which are several arches for the drawing off the

waters when the low meadows adjoining are overflowed. It was formed as it now is in the reign of Henry VIII. and is about half a mile long, containing 36 arches.

From the dilapidated state of the Westgate Bridge, and the inconvenience experienced by carriages, owing to the narrowness of it and the entrance through the West Gate, and the closeness of the houses in the adjoining street, application has been made to Parliament for widening the street, and pulling down the gate and bridge, and erecting a new one; but whether of iron or stone, is not yet determined. This, when completed, will be a great improvement to the city, and add considerably to its convenience and beauty; as it is, in its present state, not only disgraceful to the place, but dangerous to travellers.

GLOCESTER CATHEDRAL.

This cathedral is a noble and magnificent structure, perhaps equal, when taken altogether, to any in England. The outside exhibits a grand and striking appearance. The *tower* in particular, though of very

large dimensions, is so light to the eye, and so neat and curious in the workmanship, that some have not hesitated to pronounce it, a complete specimen of Gothic architecture. It is impossible not to be struck with the exact symmetry of its parts, and the judicious distribution of its ornaments. It is equally divided into two stories, and the most minute particles are repeated in each. The upper story terminates in an open parapet, or battlement, and on each angle rises a pinnacle, most beautifully pierced, in their construction combining strength and lightness, and perfectly harmonizing each other.

This church appears to have been twice destroyed by fire : viz. in 1214, and 1223.

The present cathedral, dedicated to St. Peter, was begun to be built, as it now stands, by John Thokey, who had been sub-prior, and was, 1306, elected seventeenth abbot. In 1318 he built the south aisle; and 1327 brought the body of Edward II. from Berkeley Castle, and buried it honorably here. The vast offerings at whose shrine, and the contributonal assistance of the gentlemen of the neighbourhood, en-

abled him and the succeeding abbots to complete it.

The tower was designed by Abbot Seabrook, in 1450, who appointed Robert Tully, one of the monks of this abbey, and afterwards bishop of St. David's, to see to the completion of it, as appears from two Latin lines, written in the Gothic character, under the west arch, which divides the nave from the choir :—

*Hoc quod digestum specularis opusque politum
Tullii hoc ex onere, Sebroke Abbate jubente.*

In English,—

This fabric, which you see exact and neat,
The abbot charged the monk to make complete.

In the tower is a very musical peal of eight bells ; and in the first story is one of larger dimensions, and weighing nearly 7000 pounds, with this inscription on it :—

Me fecit fieri Munctus nomine Petri.*

* Though this inscription does not ascertain the age of the bell, it is however clear, that it was placed in its

The way to the cathedral from the West-gate Street, leads through King Edward's Gate, which was built by Edward I. Little of the original gate, however, now remains: one or two inches with canopies, shew in some degree the style in which it was built; but the arch is entirely removed, and the modern structure raised on the place where it once stood, is now used for the Stamp Office. In a line with this, is the entrance through the south porch into the nave of the cathedral. On the left hand as you enter, is the Consistory Court, and nearly opposite is one of the gates which lead into the Great Cloister. Till lately this was a close, heavy, wooden door. Dr. Small, a

present situation prior to the year 1351, from the following circumstance:—the diameter of it is five feet ten inches, and that of a hole in the roof of the choir, nearly under it, is only five feet; whence it may certainly be inferred, that the vault was finished after the bell was drawn up. The choir roof was built by Adam De Staunton, who was made abbot in 1337, and died in 1351; therefore the bell must be at least 452 years old; but some suppose it much older, who are of opinion, that *Petri* refers to Peter, who was abbot in the year 1104.

prebendary of the cathedral, substituted a light, open, iron one; the exquisite beauty of the cloister is thus exhibited to view, and thrown into fine perspective. The extremity is terminated by a window enriched with painted glass, which was collected from obscure parts of the church, and the pieces are here arranged, in such a simple, and chaste style, as to produce the most pleasing effect.

The nave, or body, of the cathedral is of early Norman, and variously esteemed.—Some condemn the massy pillars, as heavy, disproportionate, and inelegant, while others discover a degree of grandeur, well adapted to the solemnity of the place. It is said, that Morwent, chamberlain of the abbey in 1421, and who built the west front, had intended to alter the whole, according to the two pillars at the bottom, had he lived long enough.

The nave is separated from the choir by a skreen, which was designed by Kent, and erected at the expense of Bishop Benson. In viewing it, it is to be hoped that the memory of the good prelate will be considered,

rather than the fame of the artist, as it deserves no credit either for justness of proportion, or harmony of composition. It belongs to no order, nor has even the equivocal merit of partaking of all of them.

Over the skreen is placed the organ, which, at the same time that it forms an appropriate and conspicuous ornament, serves to complete the division from the choir, into which you enter through worked iron folding doors.

From this point of view are to be seen the three great windows : that at the east end of the Lady's Chapel, another at the extremity of the choir, and the third over the west door of the nave.

The tower is immediately over the middle of the choir ; and the great bell is rung there on Sundays, and other particular days, by eight men.

On the north and south sides are the arches, which support the vaulting of the transepts : both of these are intersected at the springing by a flying arch with open spandrils, each spanning the space of the tower. The height, lightness, and width of

this and other vaults of the same kind, cannot be observed without surprize, nor, indeed, less the manner of their construction; since Sir Christopher Wren, when examining the vault of King's College Chapel, in Cambridge, which is in the same style of building, though differing in its ornaments, declared, that he was unacquainted with the principles on which it was constructed.

The sides of the choir are embellished with elegant spiral canopies of rich tabernacle work, carved in oak, allowed to be among the finest pieces of Gothic or Saracenic carving in wood now remaining in England; if, perhaps, we except that most beautiful specimen exhibited in the bishop's seat in the cathedral of Exeter. On the right of the pulpit is the bishop's seat; on the left, the archdeacon's; on the back of the former is the following inscription:—

EDEL DUX,
ELDADUS EPS. GLOUC.
ELDO MAJOR,
A. 490.

It appears from Dugdale, that Edel, or Eldol, the Briton, by some called Earl, by

others Duke and Consul, was Earl of this place in 461. He attended Vortigern at the treaty of peace at Ambresbury, where they were invited by Hengist the Saxon, and where a great number of the Britons were treacherously murdered. Eldol, by feats of extraordinary courage, escaped to Gloucester.

The High Altar is of oak ; but being after the Corinthian order, is, though handsome in itself, ill suited to the Gothic arches which surround it.

The pavement before the altar is singularly curious ; it is composed of painted bricks which were the workmanship of the more ingenious monks ; and the armorial bearings are penciled with great accuracy, and much fancy in the scrolls and rebus, which are the usual subjects. Most of these repeat the devices of Edward II. of the Clares, and De Spencers, Earls of Gloucester, and Abbot Seabroke.

The great east window occupies the whole space of the end of the choir. It is said to be of the largest dimensions in England ; the glass measuring 2798 square feet. The

arch has three chief divisions, or mullions, terminating elliptically, the middle of which includes seven tiers of stained glass, much decayed and mutilated.

The Whispering Gallery is a narrow passage, formed by five parts of an octagon, and is twenty-five yards in extent ; it probably was the effect of mere accident, and intended only as a communication to the other side of the choir : the facility, however, with which the voice is carried to a person on the opposite side, be the whisper ever so low, is so remarkable, as to have engaged the notice of that great philosopher Lord Bacon, who endeavours to account for it in a way somewhat too fanciful. In the middle of the passage are the following lines :

Doubt not but God, who sits on high
Thy secret prayers can hear,
When a dead wall thus cunningly
Conveys soft whispers to the ear.

At the back of the choir, on the left hand, is the much famed, and most beautiful monument of King Edward II. who was mur-

dered in Berkeley Castle. His effigy, curiously formed in alabaster, lies under a very elegant canopy of freestone. When the corpse of this unfortunate prince lay in the castle, Abbot Thokey ventured to pay that respect to it which had been refused by other ecclesiastics. He removed it to Gloucester, and performed the funeral obsequies with the greatest splendor. Rhysbrack visited this tomb with the enthusiasm of an artist, and pronounced it the most perfect specimen of the sculpture of that period, and certainly the work of an Italian artist.

Edward III. attended by his whole court, came to pay the customary honours to his deceased father. He made an offering of a ship of gold, and another ship, which, at the intreaty of the abbot and convent, was redeemed at the price of one hundred pounds. Prince Edward, his son, offered a cross of gold, having in its composition a part of the great cross, and a ruby. These splendid examples were followed with great emulation, and an infinite number of offerings were made at the shrine of the deceased

king, which were expended in building the vault, and other ornaments of the choir.

The Great Cloisters were built by Abbot Frowcester, who was installed in 1381. These are esteemed the most elegant specimens of the Saracenic style, as it is generally called, in this or any other country. The roof seems as if it were intended to represent a grove, with the branches stretching over. Each side of the square measures about 148 feet. About the middle of the east side is the Library. A parliament was once held in this room; and the remains of many distinguished personages of antiquity are interred here. It is but indifferently stocked with books; but has lately received a very handsome and valuable addition from the munificent bequest of Dean Tucker, who, before his death, had shelves put up, and proper arrangements made for receiving them. Further on is a door leading up to the old abbey library, now used for the College School, which was founded by Henry VIII. and is now under the direction of the Rev. Arthur Benoni Evans, A. B. upper

master; and the Rev. William Gwinnett Hornedge, lower master.

On the north side of the cloisters are several lavatories; and opposite to them is the Sudatory, or place where the napkins were hung, consisting of two arcades. On the south side are twenty distinct places, or seats, where it is said the monks used to sit and write, before the invention of printing*.

* 1471, the art of printing was brought into England by William Caxton, of London, mercer, who managed the first press, set up in the Almery of Westminster (by Islip the abbot), till 1494, when he died.

Printing with wooden blocks, and very soon after with separate wooden types, was first performed by L. Koster, at Harlaem, 1430; whence it was brought in 1452 by Francis Corsellis, and introduced at Oxford.

Metal types were invented by John Geinsfleisch Guttenburgh, of Mentz, and Fust, 1441. The method of casting types was discovered by Peter Schæffer, 1452.

Others again say, that John Mantel, of Strasbourg, was the first who invented the art of printing. Each has his several advocates, but Guttenburgh seems to be the best supported, and entitled to the discovery.

The first printed book was the *Catholicon Januensis*, folio, dated 1460, said to be now in the King's library; and the advocates for Fust being the inventor, say, it is

The Little Cloisters are said to have belonged to the church built by Archbishop Aldred, in 1061.

The Bishop's Palace is situated at the western entrance of the little cloisters. It has little architectural beauty, except its front, to recommend it to the notice of the artist.—Over the fire-place in the hall is a neat tablet of marble, with an inscription to record the visit of their present Majesties and Princesses in the year 1788, in the time of Bishop Halifax.

The College Green, which is neatly laid out, and planted with lime trees, affords a

his type; for though it has not his name, it perfectly resembles some printed soon after, to which it is affixed.

The first quarto was Tully's Offices in 1465 and 1466; and of this there are copies with both dates, in the Bodleian and C. C. College libraries, Oxford.

Fust or Faust carried some of his printed bibles to Paris, and wanted to impose them on the French as MSS. who, considering the number of books, and their exact conformity with each other, concluded there was witchcraft in the case, and threatening to indict him, extorted the secret. Hence the origin of the popular story of Dr. Faustus.

cool and shady walk during the heat of the summer, and is chiefly occupied by the deanery and prebendal houses. The Deanery immediately adjoins the west end of the Cathedral, and is a very convenient residence, much indebted to the late venerable dignitary, Dr. Tucker, for many improvements.

Dimensions of the Cathedral.

	Feet.	Feet.
Total length and breadth - - - -	421	by 144
— of the nave - - - - -	171	84
— choir - - - - -	140	34
— transeps, each - - -	66	43
— tower, height from the ground to the leads	176	} 225
thence to top of spires	49	
— Lady's Chapel - - -	90	by 27
Total height of the choir - - - -	86	
— nave - - - - -	67	
— side aisles - - -	40	
— Lady's Chapel -	47	
— great window - -	87	
Length and breadth of Great Cloister	144	— 148

There are five churches, viz. St. Michael, St. Mary de Crypt, St. Mary de Lode, St. Nicholas, and St. John: there is also St. Aldate's chapel.

TRADE, MANUFACTURE, &c.

The staple trade of Gloucester is the PIN MANUFACTORY: it was brought hither by John Tilsby, in 1626, at the decline of the clothing trade, in order to give employment to the poorer inhabitants; and, having been properly encouraged and promoted, it has ever since been gradually increasing. In 1712, it is said, this trade returned 80*l.* a week—in 1744, the wages amounted to about the same sum, exclusive of materials, and together made a return of about 300*l.* a week—in 1780 it returned about 20,000*l.* per annum from London, besides a very extensive trade with the country: since that period it has much increased, and is supposed to return, at this time, at least 60,000*l.* per annum.

There are, in Gloucester, twelve manufactories of this nature; and at least fifteen hundred persons employed. In its process it passes through twelve hands, from its first state of rough wire till stuck on paper for sale.

In 1788, Their present Majesties, with

the three eldest Princesses, honored the manufactory with their presence, and expressed the highest satisfaction. In the month of August, 1802, it was visited by Lord Nelson, as also in the subsequent month of September by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, who each expressed their approbation.

An IRON FOUNDERY, upon a large scale, has lately been established here by Mr. Montague, which must doubtless contribute to the importance of this city, and also become extensively useful and convenient to the neighbouring country. Cast iron work of all kinds is executed at this manufactory in a style of neatness and precision equal to that of any other work in the kingdom.

The BELL FOUNDERY concern though it contributes not a great deal towards the employment of the poor, yet deserves our notice, both on account of the ingenuity which is required successfully to manage it, and the few places in the kingdom where it is carried on. It has continued nearly a century and a half in the Rudhall family, and by them alone near four thousand bells

have been cast. The ancestors of the present proprietor are deposited in the great cloisters of the cathedral, near the library door; and one monument, with appropriate emblematic ornaments, records the memory of Abraham Rudhall, who died in 1699.—The foundry is in the Oxbody Lane.

A CORN MILL has also been erected here by a spirited set of subscribers, actuated by very laudable motives. No extortion or fraud will be permitted, but the whole and real produce of the grain, sent to be ground, will be delivered back from the mill without admixture: every person, therefore, will enjoy the satisfaction of receiving the genuine meal or flour of his own corn.

In this mill, which consists of four stories, is contained six pair of stones, besides an apparatus for dressing and preparing oatmeal. The whole is worked by an engine, constructed upon principles entirely new: instead of steam, air is the principal agent; which being compressed, and afterwards rarefied by the application of heat, is delivered to a cylinder, in which a piston is acted upon as in steam engines, and thence the

motion is communicated to the machinery. This engine promises to become one of the most useful things of the kind hitherto invented. The fuel requisite to work it is not much more than one-half, and the water it requires not above one fortieth part, of the quantity used in steam engines of an equal power : the first is an advantage universally applicable ; and the second, in situations where water is scarce, is a convenience of incalculable value.

A SNUFF MILL was established here by the late Mr. Powell Chandler, now occupied by Messrs. Chandler and Savage, near Barton Street. This mill is particularly noted for a very general article, known by the name of Chandler and Savage's Scotch Snuff ; there are also very large quantities made of the Brown and Common Scotch, Rappee, Queen's, and Strasburgh : the whole of which is manufactured in the greatest perfection.

There is not any other manufacture of consequence in the city ; though the trade and commerce is extensive, arising from its intercourse with distant places by the means

N

of the Severn; which is kept up and increased by the active exertions of the inhabitants.

The chief employment of the town, in and before the reign of William the Conqueror, was making and forging of iron; and this manufacture was in considerable repute in the times of Richard II. and Henry IV.—The ore was brought from Robin Hood's Hill.

The clothiers' business was an important one here, as was also the capmakers'; but both have long since deserted the city.

The following account and particulars of the different charitable institutions, the Infirmary, the intended Lunatic Asylum, and the Music Meetings, or Charity for Clergymen's Widows and Orphans, may possibly, at first sight, appear to many too prolix and precise; but as they are supported, in a great degree, by *voluntary contribution*, and pleasure rarely absorbs benevolence in a British bosom, we conceive we shall, by their insertion, perform a duty to the country, and

afford an additional opportunity to the many unexceptionable ones, the humane will rarely be at a loss to discover of indulging his truly luxurious gratification.

The description of the County Gaol and its regulations is dwelt upon for an additional reason: the plan appeared, and has effectually proved to be, so well adapted to the objects proposed, that it has been very generally followed throughout the kingdom.

THE INFIRMARY.

In 1754, the nobility, gentry, and clergy of this county, opened two subscriptions, for the purpose of building and supporting an Infirmary; and appointed a committee of the subscribers for the promotion of this humane work. In the next year a plan of a building, offered by Mr. Luke Singleton, was adopted, and the present Infirmary, which is situated in the Southgate Street, nearly opposite the City Gaol, was begun to be erected agreeably to that plan, and opened for the reception of patients July 18, 1761.

The late king, George II. was graciously

pleased to give 6200 loads of timber from the Forest of Dean, the amount of the sale of which was added to the fund for defraying the expenses of the building.

The governors, being anxious to promote immediately the benevolent designs of the subscribers, and to afford instant relief to the sick and lame, availed themselves, in the year 1755, of a very liberal and disinterested offer made by the late Benjamin Hyett, Esq. of certain premises belonging to him, and consisting of the Crown and Sceptre inn, in the Westgate Street, which they fitted up and opened for the reception of patients Sept. 11, 1755.

The Infirmary is of brick, is large and commodious, and contains 117 beds for the accommodation of patients. The wards are spacious and lofty, and are so ventilated, that the bad air is got rid of, and the fresh air admitted, without affecting partially, or in any way incommoding, the patients who are necessarily confined to their beds.

This Infirmary was founded and endowed by its liberal benefactors for the CURE OF THE SICK AND LAME OF ANY COUNTRY

OR NATION, who are destitute of the means of support, and unable to pay for their cure.

The medical men attached to the institution devote their time and services to the charity without any other gratuity or reward, than the pleasing reflection that they are administering to the wants of the helpless poor.

All subscribers of two guineas per annum, or benefactors of twenty pounds, or more, given at any one time; are governors.—A general meeting of the governors is held on the Friday in the week of the summer assize, and on Thursday in the week of the sessions after Easter, Michaelmas, and Christmas. The governors also meet every Thursday, at twelve o'clock, to admit and discharge the patients, and regulate the affairs of the house.

Subscriptions are taken in at any time: but it is wished that subscribers should pay their yearly subscriptions on, or as soon as may be after the FIRST DAY OF JANUARY, that the treasurers may have money in advance to defray the running expenses of the

house, and purchase what is wanted at the cheapest rate, by paying instantly for it.

Messrs. Turner, Jeynes, Morris, and Jeynes, bankers, in Gloucester, are the treasurers. Every subscriber of one guinea is intitled to recommend two out patients ; of one guinea and a half, one in-patient, or three out-patients ; of two guineas one in-patient and one out-patient, or four out-patients : and in general, every guinea and an half subscribed gives a right of recommending one in-patient, and every half-guinea one out-patient.

A benefactor of ten pounds, given at one time, is entitled to recommend one out-patient within every year during his or her life ; and a benefactor of twenty pounds, so given, has the privilege of recommending one in-patient and three out-patients within every year during his or her life : and so in proportion for every further sum of twenty pounds so given. But no subscriber or benefactor can have more than one in-patient at a time. It appears from the printed Re-

port of the State of the Infirmary during the year 1801—

That the number of in-patients who have been under the care of this infirmary, from its institution in 1755, up to December 31, 1801, inclusive, is - - - - - 21,630
 Of whom have been dis- } Cured 14,661
 charged - - - - - } Relieved 2,162
16,823

And that in this number 3172 patients are included who were admitted upon sudden accidents, without any recommendation; and that of these 112 were so admitted during the year 1801. The average number of in-patients during the said year was 168; but some of these being convalescent were permitted to return to their homes for a time, in order to try the effect of a change of air; so that the average number of in-patients who were upon the diet list, and daily supported at the expense of the charity, was reduced to ninety-eight. The average number of out-patients during the said year, constantly upon the books, was ninety-nine.

The receipts of the same year are as follows:

	£.	s.	d.
By voluntary contributions - - - - -	1189	13	0
By a legacy - - - - -	20	0	0
By benefactions, including 1474 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i> being the special contributions collected by ministers of parishes and of dissent- ing congregations, within the county, towards the relief of the charity, which			
Carried over	1209	13	0

Brought forward	1209	13	0
had been much burdened by the extra-ordinary pressure of the years 1800 and 1801, and by various other gifts, the collection at the door of the cathedral, subsistence of soldiers, use of bath, and other incidents - - - - -	1906	12	5½
By interest of funded property and other securities, annuities, &c. - - - - -	602	1	3
	3718	6	8½
Expenditure	2763	16	8
Surplus	954	10	0½

Of this surplus, 672*l.* 10*s.* has been laid out in the purchase of 1000*l.* 3 per cent. consols, in order to comply with the terms of a benefaction of 700*l.* given with that intent in 1800, but which had been expended, owing to the then peculiar distress of the funds of the charity.

A LUNATIC ASYLUM

Is intended to be built near to the Infirmary, as soon as a fund sufficient for that purpose can be raised.

This asylum is to be a general establishment for the reception of all persons offered for admission, and adjudged to labour under an unsound state of mind. The support of it is not to interfere with the funds of the

Infirmary ; for the patients received are to be maintained by particular payments of their friends (proportioned to their abilities), or of the parishes to which they belong, by a method similar to that which has been very successfully adopted in the Lunatic Asylum at York.

Every contributor of five guineas, or more, towards the costs of the institution, is to be a trustee for life, and to have a vote at all general courts. And every contributor of twenty guineas, or upwards, whether by benefaction or by testamentary bequest, is to have the power of appointing by will, or by any other mode, in writing, a successor to himself or herself in the trust. A committee of twenty of the trustees are to be annually appointed at a general meeting of the trustees, which is to be holden in the week of one of the assizes : and, among other duties, it is to be referred to them to examine into the circumstances, connexions, and situations of the persons offered for admittance as patients ; and after such examination to fix the weekly payments of each patient, and to take a bond

for the regular discharge of the payments so fixed from the friends or parish-officers recommending or bringing such patients.

These patients are to be divided into three distinct classes :

1st. Persons in easy or superior circumstances.

2d. Indigent persons, supported by the parishes to which they belong.

3d. Indigent persons, not dependant on parish relief.

The weekly payments of patients in the first class are to be determined individually, according to their circumstances, situation, and connexions.

The weekly payment for a patient in the second class is to be so much, as it is reasonably worth to a parish to pay, in order to get rid of the consequences which may follow the keeping, maintaining, and curing a lunatic, in the manner which the magistrates have by law a power to enjoin. But it is in no case to exceed what shall be found to be the full cost of his maintenance.

The patients of the third class are to be considered as objects of further charitable

assistance. Their weekly payments are to be reduced in proportion to the augmentation of a fund, to be established for this purpose: this fund is to be called the Reduction Fund, and is to arise from the annual savings of the establishment of the house, by means of the increased payments of the first class; and it may be presumed, that it will be augmented by the future benefactions or legacies of benevolent persons.

The weekly payments of the two indigent classes are to include every expense (that of clothing excepted), be that expense incurred by board, lodging, washing, medicine, and medical or other attendance.

But as it has appeared from calculations, seemingly well founded, that a less number than thirty patients will not secure a necessary provision for the annual expenses of the institution, and that no reduction of payment can be afforded to the patients in the third class, until there are in the whole forty-two patients. It was thus determined by the trustees at a general meeting, held in 1794, That the plan is not to be carried into execution, until the fund subscribed for that

purpose, or accumulated by interest, shall be equal to an estimate of the whole of the building, fit for the reception of forty-two patients, including the finishing, furnishing, and a sufficient allowance for contingencies, together with an overplus, to be vested as a perpetual fund, sufficient to keep the building in repair, and restore the injured or decayed furniture.—Such part only of the whole design will then be executed, as can provide for thirty persons. The remainder of the subscriptions is to be vested in securities, or otherwise made a fund to discharge the inevitable expenses incident to a new institution: And when it can be ascertained, that such a number of patients can be depended upon, as that the institution can support itself, then the whole of the subscriptions (save only the fund for support of repairs and furniture) is to be applied in completing the original design.

The subscriptions, in the mean time, paid to the treasurers, Messrs. Turner, Jeynes, Morris, and Jeynes, are, as often as they amount to an entire sum of one hundred pounds, laid out by them in the purchase of

gaol-bonds, bearing an annual interest of four pounds ten shillings per centum, and redeemable by them at such times, and in such sums, as may be requisite for carrying on the intended building. The interest arising from these bonds is brought to account, on the day on which it becomes due; and is, without the smallest delay or expense, applied, in like manner, to augment the fund.

A subscription for this excellent and most desirable institution was opened September 14, 1793: 1000*l.* was subscribed on that day; and on the 14th of July following 650*l.* had been laid out in the purchase of land, near to the Infirmary, and convenient for the Asylum, and 2800*l.* had been vested in gaol bonds.

CHARITY FOR CLERGYMEN'S WIDOWS
AND ORPHANS.

To the list of charitable establishments belongs that which makes some provision for the necessities of clergymen's widows and orphans, by an annual Meeting of the three Choirs of Gloucester, Worcester, and Here-

ford. According to the original plan, the members of the three choirs only were to form the band ; but as the passion and taste for music have become more general and refined, it has been found necessary to call in the aid of first rate performers, at a very large expense, which has been defrayed by the sale of the tickets for admission, and by the stewards of the meeting. These stewards were originally two in number ; they have, by a late very necessary and prudent regulation, been increased to six. At these meetings, collections have been made at the door of the cathedral, on the mornings of three days in September, during which the musical festival continues ; the amount of which has been equally divided between the three dioceses, and distributed among such objects as were thought to have the best founded claims thereto. The proportion of such charity, which has, from time to time, been distributed among the widows and orphans of clergymen in the diocese of Gloucester, has, upon an average, not exceeded 140*l.* per annum.

The following exact statement of the re-

ceipts at the music meeting in September, 1802, so much exceeding those of any preceding one, cannot but afford the highest gratification, not only to those persons who laudably contributed towards it, but to every one who takes an interest in the prosperity of this most excellent charity :

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Contributions for the charity	-	-	-	626	3	1
Sale of tickets, books, &c.	1703	4	0			
Expenses	1450	11	4			
Surplus funded for the annual benefit of the charity	-	-	-	252	12	8
Which makes the total funded sum	-	-	-	878	15	9

And this handsome sum is funded, notwithstanding the expenses exceeded those of all former meetings by 250%!!

It being found by experience, that the amount of these collections, when proportioned and allotted to this diocese, was very inadequate to the end proposed ; that there were likewise many families of distressed clergymen in this diocese, who stood in need of relief ; and it being a fact, not to be controverted, that there was no fund whatever

within the diocese applicable to the relief of them and their families, a subscription was opened in 1786, by the clergy and laity of the county, in aid of the distribution made by the stewards of the meeting of the three choirs. The present fund for the support of the auxiliary charity consists of the sum of 100*l.* stock in the 3 per cent. consolidated bank annuities, a Gloucester gaol bond for 100*l.* bearing an interest of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per annum; and also of annual subscriptions, which *communibus annis* have not exceeded 237*l.*

The objects to be relieved by this charity are, "the widows of clergymen or their children unprovided for, or not in a way of providing for themselves, or such clergymen as shall be disabled by sickness, infirmity, or misfortune, and have not income enough for the support of themselves and their families." But no widow or orphan is to be relieved, except those of such clergymen as at the time of their death were possessed of some ecclesiastical preferment, or had been licensed to, and served a curacy, for a complete twelvemonth, within this diocese.

The application of this charity, for the first five years after the institution, was extended to distressed living clergymen, or their families ; but the funds being inadequate to such extension, the receipts since, one instance excepted, have been applied in relieving widows and orphans only.

The distribution of this charity is made at an annual meeting of the subscribers, held in the first week in August.

Before any relief is directed, it is necessary that a certificate of the state and good character of the petitioner, signed by three subscribers, or three clergymen, residing near where the petitioner resides, be produced ; and these certificates are forwarded to the several rural deans within the diocese, who bring or transmit the same to the annual meeting, with every necessary observation that may arise within their knowledge. The cases of the petitioners being then attentively considered at the annual meeting, the necessary orders for relief are made.

Since the commencement of this institution, the average number of widows, and orphans annually relieved has been 31 ; of

these considerable part has been aged maiden orphans.

Subscriptions to this charity are received by the Rev. Mr. Sandiford, the treasurer ; and by Messrs. Fendal, Evans, and Jelf, bankers, Gloucester.

THE CITY GAOL

stands at the bottom of the Southgate Street ; is built on a small plan, but sufficiently large for the number of prisoners usually in confinement, and with cells adapted to solitude and separation. The Upper North Gate was the miserable place used for the city prison, till, with the other gates, it was taken down, and the present building erected.

THE COUNTY GAOL.

The old Castle at Gloucester was occupied as the gaol for the county, being rented by the sheriff, for that purpose, of the constable of the same : Benjamin Hyett, Esq. and his ancestors have long held the office of constable of that castle, as immediate tenants of the Crown ; and with the consent of the

present constable the New Gaol was erected on the ancient site of the Castle, and part of the land appurtenant to his office.

This castle, like most of the buildings of the same sort, was ill-suited to the purposes of a gaol: it was insecure, unhealthy, and wholly inadequate to the great design of discrimination of offences, or reformation of offenders. The prisoners confined therein were crowded together without distinction of age, sex, or of the crimes for which they were committed. That dreadful scourge of man, the gaol fever, generally prevailed within its walls, and several medical gentlemen had fallen victims to their philanthropy exerted in attending the sick.

In the year 1783, this disorder had arisen to so dangerous a crisis, that the judges, at the lent assize of that year, found it necessary on their own account, as well as that of the public necessarily attending on the courts, to postpone the trials of many prisoners to a future time. Numbers fell victims to the dreadful contagion; and others, returning to their families, spread the direful malady over the county in a degree so

great as to threaten a very considerable depopulation.

Roused by these very important consequences of the ancient system of prisons, and their ill-management, at that time peculiarly held out to public observation by that distinguished philanthropist, John Howard, Esq. the grand juries of the assize of that year entered into the most strong and decided resolutions; and through the medium of their reference to the magistrates, a general meeting of the county was called, and held on the 3d day of October, 1783.

The meeting in a most determined and spirited manner resolved to undertake a general reform, not only in this gaol, but in all the prisons of the county on a plan consonant to Mr. Howard's observations, and such as would effect a total change of that system which had so long been suffered to exist.

It was however agreed, to postpone the execution of so great a scheme until a special act of parliament could be obtained for enabling the county so to raise the necessary sum of money as to lessen materially an unexpected and, under the existing laws,

an inevitable burthen on the then contributors to the county rate.

In 1785, an act was passed, not only for constructing this useful monument of public munificence; but for regulating and providing for every part of its internal management. This act, as well as the management of the Gaol erected in consequence thereof, have become a model for imitation, and have since been incorporated with the general law of the land.

This extensive, though plain and unornamented edifice was several years in building, as it was not opened for public use before the 29th of July, 1791. And from the accounts laid before a general meeting of the county, in 1793, by Sir G. O. Paul, Bart. a magistrate principally concerned in conducting the work, and which were ordered by that meeting to be published, we find that "the cost of this Gaol, Penitentiary House and House of Correction included within the same walls, together with the purchase of the ground, the finishing and furnishing the prison, and cloathing the pri-

soners on entering therein, amounted to the sum of 25,891*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*"

Neither this sum, nor the act of rebuilding the several bridewells in other parts of the county, was charged in the usual way immediately on the rate. A certain sum was borrowed on the credit of that rate; which rate was mortgaged for the purpose of liquidating the debt. And the effect of this was found, as it appears from an accurate statement ordered at a late county meeting to be printed, "to be not more oppressive on the county rate than the small sum of one half penny in the pound."

The Gaol, with the Penitentiary House and Bridewell annexed, contains thirteen different wards or divisions, with their distinct airing grounds, appropriated to the several classes of prisoners of different sexes, and to their respective various shades of turpitude.

Within it are a chapel, rooms for warm and cold baths, an hospital with distinct wards for the two sexes, and convalescent wards; and also a lazaretto, or ward, over

the lodge, for the first reception of prisoners committed, who are not permitted to go into the prison till they have been examined by the surgeon and entered in his journal, as free from infectious diseases.

In the Gaol, or sheriff's prison, there are day-rooms for every class of prisoners ; but in the Penitentiary House, there is to each man allotted a separate cell, as a work-room, suited to that employment to which he is most fitted ; and each and every one of these cells for the convicts, as well as the day-rooms for the unconvicted prisoners, are warmed, either by flues or by open fires, in the winter months.

No prisoner is, on any account, suffered to sleep either on the ground-floor or in the cell in which he has passed the day. There are provided 182 single rooms, or cells, for confinement of the prisoners during the night, fitted according to their respective classes. These are all built with brick, arched over, and resting on an arch, and being unmixd with any combustible material, are fire proof. And as air is perpetually passing under and over them in every

direction, they are necessarily dry : they are likewise impervious to air, except through openings which are near the ceiling over the door and by the window shutters ; the prisoner, therefore, sleeping within them, under warm cloathing, is not incommoded by weather, nor has ever been known to suffer from cold : his cloathing has been sufficient, and, we understand, regularly changed, through a regard to health and cleanliness.

The doors of the Gaol, or sheriff's prison, are open to the friends of persons confined, who are admitted, at all seasonable hours, to the visiting rooms of the respective classes : but no person can pass into the wards, or see the interior parts of the prison, without an order from one of the visiting magistrates, a visiting physician or surgeon, or the chaplain, and in that case only between the hours of ten and one, and three and five.

Finding it to be a positive order, that no fee, perquisite, or gratuity whatever shall be taken by any servant or officer for admission of persons to see the prison, or any

prisoner therein, we cannot but recommend to every visitor, uniformly to attend to this order; and not from any motive of self-gratification, derived from the orderly conduct of the establishment, or a wish to recompense the attendant officer for his seemingly good attention, to bribe that officer to a breach of his duty, which must necessarily be productive of his dismissal.

Charity boxes are affixed to the great gate and in the lobby of the prison, for the reception of the contributions of the benevolent. Their benefactions, together with other contributions, are applied to the relief of poor prisoners of every description, under the administration of a committee, appointed by the quarter sessions, for prison charities.—This fund is disposed of according to the general rules of the Society for the Relief of Small Debtors, and has hitherto enabled the committee to grant relief to all deserving objects that offer themselves as debtors for liberation, and also to encourage amendment of manners in convicted prisoners who have been entitled to their discharge.

The Chapel is commodious, airy, and light ; and so contrived in its fitting up as to contain all the prisoners in divisions, according to their respective classes, without the convicted and unconvicted being enabled to mix with or see each other.

The prisoners are required to attend every morning at the Chapel, and after the service is performed, the roll is called over, and bread delivered out ; so that any person not appearing at chapel loses his daily allowance.

In addition to the other officers of the Gaol, there is also a manufacturer or task master, who acts as a principal assistant to the governor in the safe keeping and discipline of the prison, but whose peculiar province is to find work for the prisoners of every description, to inspect their works, to pay the prisoners their proportionate earnings, and to sell to visitors and others the articles manufactured in the prison.

The chaplain, governor, and surgeon respectively keep journals, in which they daily report what passes within their particular observation ; these journals are open

to the constant inspection of the visiting magistrates, appointed annually at the quarter sessions, and are also laid before the body of magistrates at their sessions.

The other attendants are few : there is a porter, a clerk, and one deputy officer to each prison. For although the use of irons is entirely laid aside, except as a temporary punishment in violent instances of refractory behaviour, yet the gentle treatment, and strict adherence to order, required from the keepers, produce that quiet and gentle demeanor on the part of the prisoners, which renders force and violence wholly unnecessary.

It would shew a great inattention on our part to the good management of this excellent institution, if, in our conclusion, we neglected to notice the few deaths which have happened since the first opening of the Gaol ; and here, with satisfaction, we refer ourselves to a letter of Sir G. O. Paul, Bart. who first designed, then carried into execution, and has ever since, with uniform and undiminished assiduity, superintended this great national model for prison reform. This

letter, which is dated May 30, 1801, is addressed to C. Taylor, Esq. Secretary to the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, and which is to be found in Vol. xix. p. 299, of their Transactions for 1801, states, " That from the time the County Gaol at Gloucester was opened, in 1791, until the year 1800, about 1300 persons were committed to it: and, on the average, about one hundred prisoners were constantly confined in it. In the nine years the number of deaths has been thirteen; and of these, four sunk under the effects of disease brought into prison with them. During the last year the prison has been crowded in an uncommon and very improper degree: two hundred and fourteen have been confined; and the average number has been one hundred and sixty seven. One prisoner only has died (a woman aged sixty), in the month of October last. At the opening of the spring assize, 1801 (the time of the greatest numbers), there was not one prisoner sick, or in the hospital ward!!

By this statement it appears, that the proportion of deaths is so much below the com-

mon average, in the ordinary situations of life, that the healthiness of this abode may be said to be peculiar."

When the prisoners have undergone the punishment to which they have been sentenced, their own, or other decent cloathing, is delivered to them at the time of their discharge, and also a sum, not exceeding ten shillings, for their subsistence till they can get to the place of their last legal settlement. If they have been industrious and orderly during their confinement, a certificate of their good conduct is given them. And if at the end of one year's service, their master, and the minister of the parish in which such master lives, certify to the continuance of such good conduct, a further sum, in proportion to the time they had been in prison, and not exceeding 3*l*. is allowed them by the Justices in quarter sessions. Numbers have applied for and received this additional sum : and it is well known that many others have not so applied, who have yet become reformed and useful members of society.*

* When we view our prisons, and reflect on our system of criminal jurisprudence, how strong is the

mixture of grateful satisfaction at our own customs, and of inexpressible horror at the merciless and despotic perversion of justice in many other countries! We cannot here refrain communicating from "Moseley's Treatise on Prisons" an account of his visit to those of Venice: it requires neither apology nor comment.

"I was conducted through the prison, with one of its inferior dependants. We had a torch with us. We crept along narrow passages, as dark as pitch. In some of them, two people could scarcely pass each other. The cells are made of massy marble; the architecture, of the celebrated *Sansovino*.

"The cells are not only dark, and black as ink, but being surrounded and confined with huge walls, the smallest breath of air can scarcely find circulation in them. They are about nine feet square on the floor, arched at the top, and between six and seven feet high in the highest part. There is to each cell a round hole, of eight inches diameter; through which the prisoner's daily allowance of twelve ounces of bread, and a pot of water, is delivered. There is a small iron door to the cell. The furniture of the cell is a little straw, and a small tub: nothing else. The straw is renewed, and the tub emptied, through the iron door, occasionally.

"The diet is ingeniously contrived for the perdur-
ation of punishment. Animal food, or a cordial nutritious regimen, in such a situation, would bring on disease, and defeat the end of this Venetian justice.—Neither can the soul, if so inclined, steal away, wrapt up in slumbering delusion, or sink to rest, from the admonition of her sad existence, by the gaoler's daily return.

“ I saw one man, who had been in a cell thirty years ; two, who had been twelve years ; and several who had been eight, and nine years, in their respective cells.

“ By my taper's light I could discover the prisoners' horrid countenances. They were all naked. The man who had been there thirty years, in face and body, was covered with long hair. He had lost the arrangement of words, and order of language. When I spoke to him, he made an unintelligible noise, and expressed fear and surprise ; and, like some wild animals in deserts, which have suffered by the treachery of the human race, or have an instinctive abhorrence of it,—he would have fled like lightning from me, if he could.

“ One, whose faculties were not so obliterated—who still recollected the difference between day and night—whose eyes and ears, though long closed with a silent blank, still languished to perform their natural functions, implored, in the most piercing manner, that I would prevail on the gaoler to murder him, or to give him some instrument to destroy himself. I told him I had no power to serve him in this request. He then intreated I would use my endeavours with the inquisitors to get him hanged, or drowned in the *Canal Orfano* : but even in this I could not serve him. Death was a favour I had not interest enough to procure for him.

“ This kindness of death, however, was, during my stay in Venice, granted to one man, who had been “ from the cheerful ways of man cut off” thirteen years.

“ Before he left his dungeon I had some conversation with him ; this was six days previous to his execution. His transport at the prospect of death was surprising. He longed for the happy moment. No saint ever exhi-

bited more fervour in anticipating the joys of a future state, than this man did at the thoughts of being released from life, during the four days mockery of his trial.

“ It is in the *Canal’ Orfano*, where vessels from Turkey and the Levant perform quarantine. This place is the watery grave of many who have committed political or personal offences against the state or senate, and of many who have committed no offences at all. They are carried out of the city in the middle of the night, tied up in a sack, with a large stone fastened to it, and thrown into the water. Fishermen are prohibited, on forfeiture of their lives, against fishing in this district. The pretence is the plague. This is the secret history of people being lost in Venice.

“ What I now unfold in regard to the prison in Venice is known but to a few people. I have reason to believe that no foreigner besides myself ever witnessed the scene I have related ; the exploring of which nearly cost me my life.

The heat, and want of air in the passages among the cells, so oppressed my strength and respiration, that I could scarcely walk or breathe when I left the prison. Sweat ran through every pore of my body. My cloaths were, to my coat sleeves, wet through. I staid too long there. I went to St. Mark’s Place, as soon as I could ; and, by the assistance of the trembling Dominico, waiting for my return, the blessed light of day, fresh air, and a few glasses of Maraschino, I was enabled to get to my lodgings at the *Scudo di Francia*, on the side of the Great Canal, near the Rialto ; where I was for several hours extremely ill, and for several days much indisposed.”

CHAP. VII.

Excursion down the Wye.

THE visitor, who wishes to make this delightful tour, should sleep at Gloucester the preceding evening; from thence he may start in the morning, and prepare his mind for scenery which will realize all his expectations. The first stage is from Gloucester to Ross, 16 miles. After passing the sixth mile-stone, the road begins to take an abrupt devious direction: the ground rises to the right and the left; small hills, covered with fern, shut out an *extensive* view, but present numberless choice objects of the picturesque:—a lime-kiln, half concealed, with rolling volumes of smoke—a moss-covered cottage—a solemn group of oak trees—and the various accompaniments of shrubs and flowery plants, on sloping or abrupt declivities, give a spirited finish to a scene which Rysdael or Gainsborough might have paint-

P

ed with rapture. At the eighth mile-stone, nothing can be more enchanting than the surrounding landscape : it is near this spot that Mr. Burden, an artist of distinguished ability at Gloucester, has taken one of his most favourite and romantic views, for his picturesque work of " Scenery in Gloucestershire."

From the eighth mile-stone, the road continues hilly to Ross : but the objects which surround you are so luxuriant and beautiful, that you cannot help contemplating with delight this selection of every thing rural and picturesque.

After three hours absence from Gloucester, you reach

ROSS ;

which is situated on the declivity of a hill, and commands a prospect over the river Wye to the mountains of Breconshire.

Ross is a market and free-borough town ; so made by King Henry III. says Camden. The streets are narrow, and present nothing attractive or interesting. The town has a mean character : but the civility to be

found at the inns, and the various accommodations which the town affords for gratifying the ingenious traveller in his excursion down the Wye, make it worth the attention and visit of the stranger.

This place is well known for its having been the residence of "The MAN of ROSS;" a character that has obtained celebrity from the Muse of Pope. The real name of the Man of ROSS was JOHN KYRLE: and his original portrait is yet to be seen in a bookseller's shop, who lives opposite the principal inn, called the Man of ROSS. It is only placed with the bookseller for temporary convenience. "The Man of ROSS," says Mr. C. Heath, in his *Excursions down the Wye*, "gave two public dinners in a week, where personal worth and humble merit were more attended to than dignity or fortune: after the servants had dined, what remained was always distributed to the poor. Neither made dishes, nor wine of any sort, ever appeared: his expenses, for his own personal gratifications, were trifling; and, during the winter, when the majority of the rich people retire to London, from dreary prospects and

clouded skies, he fulfilled what, is rarely done in the present day, the useful and honourable duties of a country gentleman; diffusing the comforts of food, fuel, raiment, and attendance among the sick, the indigent, and the old."

Such is the short sketch which the limits of our work will only enable us to give of this great and good man. Traveller, whoever thou art, whether wealthy or poor, pause over the ashes, and bless the name of the MAN of Ross! if Heaven hath given thee the means, never want the benevolence to act as he acted!

ROSS CHURCH-YARD is a spot well known to all visitors: from hence, when the sun is sinking in a western sky, and the whole horizon is "in a blaze with his departing glory," contemplate the distant mountains of Monmouthshire and Breconshire. From hence, in the foreground, the Wye takes his devious, translucent course, hurrying to the dark rocks which shelter him near Goodrich Castle. The Blorange, Skerid Vaür, and Sugar Loaf, rise pre-eminently in the purple distance; and you catch, as it were, an ear-

nest of the future happiness that is to be experienced midst the scenery of Monmouthshire. The ruins of Wilton Castle, on the opposite bank of the Wye, to the right, give a solemn grandeur to the whole foreground. Nothing can be more enchanting than the view from Ross Church-yard, in a clear and almost cloudless sky.

ROSS TO MONMOUTH, DOWN THE WYE.

The river Wye, as well as the Severn, takes its rise from the Plinlimmon hills, in Montgomeryshire *; passes through Radnorshire

* The two rivers are, at one time, near 60 miles asunder, although they take their rise so near together, and after such a considerable course fall into each other. This is a curious circumstance; but a similar one, though much more extraordinary, occurs with respect to the Ganges and Burrampooter, or Sanpoo, in Asia. These immense rivers rise in the mountains of Thibet, issuing from opposite sides of the same ridge: after flowing in different directions till they are separated nearly 1200 miles, they approach each other, and at length meet in one point, about 40 miles from the sea; having each run through a winding course of about 2000 miles!

into Herefordshire; and from thence by Monmouth and Chepstow, where it joins the Severn Sea: "disdaining to resign its contents to any other stream," says Mr. Heath. From Ross to Monmouth, down the Wye, is one of the pleasantest excursions that an Englishman can conceive. A comfortable, large, covered boat is procured at the Man of Ross. These boats will hold a party of twenty persons.

* "The first part of the river from Ross is tame; the banks are low, and there is scarce an object worth attention, except the ruins of Wilton Castle, which appear on the right, shrouded with a few trees; but the scene wants accompaniments to give it grandeur. The bank, however, soon begins to swell on the right, and is richly adorned with wood: this is a fit object of admiration, as also the vivid images reflected from the water; which are continually disturbed as you sail past them, and thrown into tremulous confusion by the dashing of the oars. You meet with

* Mr. Gilpin.

nothing for some time, during the voyage; but these grand woody banks, one rising above another; appearing and vanishing by turns, as you double the several capes. Though no particular objects mark and characterize these different scenes, yet they afford great variety of beautiful perspective views, as you wind round them."

After sailing four miles from Ross, you approach

GOODRICH CASTLE.

Here a grand view presents itself; and here you must rest upon your oars. A reach of the river, forming a noble bay, is spread before the eye. The bank, on the right, is steep, and covered with wood; beyond which a bold promontory shoots out, crowned with a castle, rising among trees. This view, says Mr. Gilpin, which is one of the grandest on the river, I should not scruple to call *correctly picturesque*; which is seldom the character of a purely natural scene.

By whom the castle of Goodrich (anciently *Godrich*) was built is now totally unknown;

nor is the æra of its building better ascertained. The signature of "*Godricus Dux*" occurs twice in the Monasticon, among the witnesses to two charters granted by King Canute : but whether he gave name to the castle, or had any concern in its erection, does not appear. William Marshall Earl of Pembroke, had a grant of Godrich Castle from King John, in the fifth year of his reign (1204), to hold the service of two knights' fees : and Walter Earl of Pembroke, his son, died there, in the 30th year of the reign of King Henry III. 1246. During the civil wars, this castle was successively in the hands of both parties. When in possession of the Royalists, the Commons resolved, on the 15th of June, 1649 (as appears from their Journals), that " eighty barrels of powder be forthwith provided for the service against Gotherich Castle and Ragland Castle, out of the store at Oxford."—Colonel Birch, who commanded the Parliamentary army, speedily got possession of the place : he is said to have battered that which is called the Lady's Tower.

This castle presents the relics of a once

almost-impregnable pile of building: where the hill, on one side, is not steep enough to defend it, a deep trench, or ditch, twenty yards broad, is hewn into the solid rock, and holds out a tremendous object to encounter. The figure of the castle is nearly square; measuring within the walls 144 feet by 156. It is defended by four large round towers, one at each angle; some of which have very extraordinary and picturesque buttresses.

Having passed through the strong gateway, the first building on the left hand is the Chapel; on the south wall of which *was* the figure of a talbot, surrounded with the garter of St. George, and on it an earl's coronet. The windows of this building were much more ornamented than any of the others. Here is a place for holy water, and niches for saints. Over it was a room with a fire-place, and beneath it a cellar; the brackets for the support of the floors, both above and below, are still remaining.

The Keep is a square building, somewhat resembling Gondulph's Tower, at Rochester Castle, but much less. It seems very an-

cient; a moulding which surrounds it being decorated with the zig-zag ornament.

It is reported, that this keep was built by one Mackbeth or Macmac, an Irish commander, as a ransom for himself and son, who were taken prisoners in Ireland by John Earl of Shrewsbury, and brought hither. It is to this day called "Mackbeth's Tower." Two monstrous head-pieces, said to be those of the father and son, were, till very lately, kept in this castle, as a memorial of that achievement. Both these helmets were extremely weighty; one of them would hold half a bushel; the least was remarkably thick.

The Hall was on the west side; where was observable a beam of oak entire, without knot or knarle, of 66 feet long, and near two feet square the whole length. The Hall itself was 60 feet, allowing three feet at each end for the resting of the beam in the walls.

The stone with which this castle is built was, most probably, dug out of the trench which surrounds the greater part of it.

On entering the first court, its appearance has little interesting for the pencil; but

the view from its edge is in the highest degree enchanting : the Wye flows at its feet ; and you command a country equal in fertility to any part of the kingdom. The church and spire of Ross finely harmonize ; nor should the church of Walford be overlooked in the picture. The eye accustomed to the country round London, must enjoy a pleasurable relief in contemplating the sublime terminations to many points of this view : the noble wood to the eastward, rising to an amazing height, and cloathed to its very summit, is strikingly contrasted by the Coppet Hill to the south-east ; which presents a bold surface of huge rocks, in fantastic shapes and forms, that give a peculiar variety to the surrounding objects.

The traveller, at the distance of nearly 130 miles from the metropolis, will contemplate with complacency these lonely and majestic ruins, surrounded by their original ancient grandeur, and compare them with the gay and fleeting objects which dress out the scenery of London and its vicinity. He will see and reflect, how much the sublimity of solitude, when heightened by such an

object as Goodrich Castle, is transcendantly superior to the mimicry of an opera, or the uproar of a theatre. From the castle we repair to our boat—put the oars in motion—and glide gently, midst romantic scenery, to the village of

WHITECHURCH;

which is situated on the right bank of the Wye, a few hundred yards from the shore, and (says Mr. Heath) is one of the prettiest and most pleasant villages in this part of the country. It is placed at an easy distance from the towns of Ross and Monmouth (from each of which places it is a beautiful ride), and through it runs the great turnpike road from London to all parts of South Wales, and the south of Ireland: this circumstance, added to the attractions of Monmouthshire as a fashionable tour, gives it an air of cheerfulness, unknown to other places around.

The church of Whitechurch is a very inconsiderable building, as its appearance bespeaks; and contains nothing, either within or without, to arrest the stranger's attention,

or gratify his curiosity. It consists of a small nave, without side aisles, and measures from east to west about twenty-five yards. Being placed near the edge of the Wye, it has a pretty effect, as a distant object, in coming down the river. The living, which is a rectory, (including Genau'r yw, an adjoining chapelry), is supposed to be worth nearly 500*l.* per annum. The present incumbent is the Rev. Duncomb Davis, M. A. who resides at Monmouth; and to whom belongs the perpetual advowson. The Rev. John Harding, M. A. of Rockfield, near Monmouth, is the officiating minister.

DOWARD.

The hills, called Great and Little Doward, which adjoin the village of Whitechurch, though unnoticed by the journalists, are objects equal in beauty to any that the excursion presents between Ross and Monmouth. Their difficulty of access may, in some degree, be a bar to inspection; but those who have leisure to ascend them will be fully recompensed for their trouble, by the sublimity, grandeur, and variety of sce-

nery, which are unfolded in the view. The path which leads thereto, on the side which fronts the Wye, is steep, stony, and uncouth ; but a horse-road is formed at Crocker's Ash (between Monmouth and Whitechurch), whereby it may be ascended with less labour. These hills afford a plentiful supply of underwood, for fence and fuel for the farmers (nor in this instance is the whole parish restricted), as well as pasture for their sheep, but no great number is maintained on them.

That Doward was anciently an encampment is beyond all doubt, for its form is to be traced at the present day : and in the centre of the camp are three mounds of earth, which seem to have been raised for the tents of the commanders. The ground is defended on the east by woody eminences ; on the north by abrupt rocky projections ; on the south by the Wye, from whose banks the rocks rise almost perpendicularly ; the West part, which was deemed accessible, appears strongly fortified by intrenchments of earth, which remain in great preservation.

The next grand scenery that we approach is called

THE NEW WEAR*.

We shall not scruple, in our description of this place, to borrow the observations of Mr. Wheatley, on a scene at the New Wear.

“It is a chasm between two ranges of hills, which rise almost perpendicularly from the water; the rocks on the sides are mostly heavy masses; and their colour is generally brown; but here and there a pale craggy shape starts up to a vast height above the rest, unconnected, broken, and bare: large trees frequently force out their way amongst them; and many of them stand far

* The continuance of *this* Wear is attributed, according to public opinion (but its erroneousness appears on the face of it), to the following circumstance:—“An order having been issued by Government, for reducing all the wears on the Wye so many feet below the surface of the water—the Duke of Kent, of whose property this formed a part, being timely informed of the circumstance, immediately added the number of feet of wall to its former height; so that when it came to be lowered, it remained in its original state.”

back in the covert, where their natural dusky hue is deepened by the shadow which overhangs them. The river too, as it retires, looses itself in woods which close immediately above, then rise thick and high, and darken the water.

“ In the midst of all this gloom is an Iron Forge, covered with a black cloud of smoke, and surrounded with half-burned ore, with coal, and with cinders. The fuel for it is brought down a path, worn into steps, narrow and steep, and winding among precipices ; and near it is an open space of barren moor, about which are scattered the huts of the workmen.

“ It stands close to the cascade of the Wear, where the agitation of the current is increased by large fragments of rocks, which have been swept down by floods from the banks, or shivered by tempests from the brow ; and the sullen sounds, at stated intervals, from the strokes of the great hammers in the forge, deaden the roar of the water-fall.

“ Just below it, while the rapidity of the stream still continues, a ferry is carried

across it; and lower down, the fishermen use little round boats, called Truckles (the remains perhaps of ancient British navigation), which the least motion will overset, and the slightest touch may destroy. All the employments of the people seem to require either exertion or caution; and the ideas of force or of danger which attend them, give to the scene an animation unknown to a solitary, though perfectly compatible with the wildest romantic situation."

From NEW WEAR to MONMOUTH, the walk holds forth the most inviting attractions: indeed it is a combination of such rich and varied scenery the whole way, that a transitory view from the boat can convey but a faint idea of its beauty.

Thus have we accompanied the reader in his excursion from Cheltenham, down the Wye, to Monmouth. In the course of this journey and voyage, he must have been struck with the variety, the grandeur, and luxuriance of the objects which on every side present themselves. The ride from Ross to Monmouth is, unquestionably, only second to that from Ambleside to Keswick,

in Cumberland. We cannot justly draw a comparison ; but some there are who prefer the soft and sweet scenery of the former, accompanied by hanging woods—moss-covered rocks—towering beach and shadowing oak—with the meandering Wye, which glitters like a silver cord at the bottom of the valley, to the bold, fearful, and terrific scenery of the latter ; where mountain rolls over mountain, and precipice frowns upon precipice. The neighbourhood of Monmouth is beautiful ; that of Keswick, sublime. The traveller must determine according to his taste.

If the traveller wishes to continue his route to Abergavenny, he should go the Ragland Castle road : though two miles longer than the other, it will amply repay him by the superiority of its picturesque objects. Nothing can exceed the exquisite beauty and grandeur of the mountains about Abergavenny, from the vicinity of Ragland Castle.

CHAP. VIII.

Excursion to Tewkesbury.

THE town of Tewkesbury lies about ten miles from Cheltenham: the road to it is heavy and rugged till you come to Coombe Hill, where it joins the high road from Gloucester. Here is a neat public house, called the Swan, but generally the Three Horse-shoes; beneath it is the Leigh Common, over which is a small canal branching from the Severn. The prospect here is very pleasing. The tower of the church is immediately visible in a direct line, apparently about two miles off, but the various windings of the road render the distance a long four miles from Coombe Hill.

In our account of the town, we confess ourselves indebted to the elegant and well-

composed "History of Tewkesbury," published by Mr. Dyde, of that place: 8vo. 2d edit. 1798.

Tewkesbury is pleasantly situated in a most delightful and fertile vale, which affords luxuriant crops of grain and fruits, as well as rich pasturage for cattle and sheep. Like another Eden it is watered by four rivers: the Severn and the Avon, at the confluence of which it stands; and two smaller streams, the Carron and the Swilgate.

This irriuous situation exposes it to annoyance from great and rapid floods, when the overcharged streams intermingling, mutually impede each others course; but the fertility they diffuse, and the intercourse they promote by navigation, amply compensate for this local inconvenience. The Severn and Avon are adapted for vessels of considerable burden; while their tributary streams, the Carron and the Swilgate, add to the general amenity and fertilization of the spot

In regard to the origin of Tewkesbury, it is so remote, as to be almost antecedent

to written memorials. Uniform tradition has recorded the name of Theocus, a religious recluse, who lived about the end of the seventh century, and had a chapel on the banks of the Severn, near this place. Whether a town then existed, where Tewkesbury now stands, is unknown: but in days, when devotees followed those who were eminent for religious zeal, and the most austere were not indifferent about the admiration of their fellow men, we may reasonably suppose that Theocus was not the single inhabitant of the spot.

However this may be, whether Theocus was distinguished as a religionist or a warrior, or both, it appears highly probable that to him we owe the etymology of Tewkesbury.

William of Malmsbury, not satisfied with vernacular idioms, attempts to derive Tewkesbury from the Greek word *Theotocos*, the *Mother of God*, because the monastery which was built here was dedicated to the Virgin and Mother: but we conceive that the town was antecedent to the monastery, and that the latter obtained its name from the former.

So much for conjectural criticism on the origin of Tewkesbury—it is now time to take the traveller within it.

Tewkesbury consists of three principal streets, well paved and lighted, exclusively of several lanes and alleys. The High Street is of considerable length, very spacious, and leads from the centre of the town towards Worcester.

The population of Tewkesbury is, by the late estimate, computed at 4199 souls.

Contiguous to the town there is a large tract of land, called the Ham, which contains nearly 200 acres of as rich meadow land as any in the kingdom. It is occasionally used as a race-ground; is commonable to freemen and occupiers of front houses, from Allhallow-tide to Candlemas; and is the property of Thomas Dowdeswell, Esq. of Pull Court, and others.

Tewkesbury was formerly famous for its manufactories. It had once a considerable share in the clothing business*, but

* Two pieces of broad cloth, one scarlet and the other crimson in grain, were sent from hence as presents,

that trade has long since been lost. It was likewise remarkable for its *mustard balls*, which being very pungent, occasioned this proverb being applied to a sharp fellow, "*He looks as if he lived on Tewkesbury Mustard.*" and Shakespeare, speaking of one with a sad, severe countenance, uses the simile, "*As thick as Tewkesbury Mustard.*" The chief manufacture at present is stocking frame-work knitting, particularly cotton; but it likewise carries on a considerable trade in malting, and has some nailing business.

The inns furnish excellent accommodations for travellers. The principal are, the Swan, in High Street—Hop-pole, Church Street—and the Star and Garter, Barton Street: at the two former as good chaises and horses are kept as at any houses on the Bath and Irish road.

There is a town-hall, a market-place, a house of industry, and free grammar school.

one to his Majesty King George the First, when Elector of Hanover; the other to his Majesty George the Second; which were most graciously accepted: value forty-five shillings a yard.

TEWKESBURY CHURCH.

This church, which is included in the deanery of Winchcomb, stands on the s. w. side of the town, near the entrance from Gloucester and Cheltenham, and was consecrated, according to the best information, by Theulph, or Theowold, a prebendary of Bayeux, in Normandy, and the Bishops of Hereford, Glamorgan, and Dublin.

It is built in the form of a cross, upon the intersection of which stands the tower, supported by four arches, and is a most magnificent and beautiful edifice. From its massive cylindrical pillars, semicircular arches, zig-zag mouldings, and other decorations, it appears to be of the Saxon, or early Norman, æra of architecture. The tower* is also in the same noble style, except the pinnacles, which were added about the commencement of the last century.

* According to Leland, part of the religious edifices at Tewkesbury were built with stone brought from Prestbury, near Cheltenham. He also adds, that the materials of the tower were said to have been imported from Caen, in Normandy.

The large, many-coloured arch window, which almost faces you on entering the town from Cheltenham, is well worthy of the admiration which it has uniformly obtained.

Dimensions of the Church.

	Feet.
Length from east to west - - - - -	300*
—— of the great cross aisle - - - - -	120
Breadth of the choir and side aisles - - - - -	70
—— west front - - - - -	100
Height from the area to the roof - - - - -	120
—— of the tower - - - - -	132

Such is the faint outline we have given of the town of Tewkesbury; it may justly be added, that it stands in a situation commanding almost every beauty of nature. The serpentine Severn—the bold and grand mass of the Malvern Mountains—the beautiful and fertile Breden Hill, with a fifteen miles road, running through an endless variety of landscape, to Worcester. Of this road to Worcester, there are many who speak with the rapture which it justly ex-

* Before the demolition of the Virgin Mary or Lady Chapel, the building was nearly 100 feet longer.

cites: to enjoy it, is to commence the journey to Worcester.

We shall conclude this account with a recital of some of the *extraordinary floods*, to which, from its low situation, it must be continually subject.

The year 1770 produced the greatest flood ever remembered at Tewkesbury; occasioned by a prodigious fall of snow, which was succeeded by a heavy rain, that continued for three days and three nights without intermission. On Saturday, the 17th of November, the water came up the Gander Lane and St. Mary's Lane, and met in a place called the Bull Ring in Church Street. On Sunday the 18th, it rose so high that large boats, with twelve or fourteen people at a time, were passing and repassing from the New Inn (now the Hop-pole) to the Masons' Arms; and other boats were employed in supplying with necessaries those who were confined to their upper rooms. Seven or eight boats were often seen at one time in the street. In St. Mary's Lane, the lower stories were entirely under water, and many of the inhabitants were taken out of

their chamber windows, together with their beds and furniture. The flood was also in the church, so that divine service could not be performed ; and the graves in the church yard were shocking to behold, for scarce a stone was to be seen that was not removed from its proper situation. Several parts of this venerable building were materially injured, particularly the large pillar next to the seats of the Corporation, and the arch over the same. Two houses near the mills were washed down, but providentially no lives were lost.

In 1792, on Thursday morning, the 19th of April, occasioned by a great fall of rain, the rivers were swoln to an amazing degree, overflowing all the low grounds, by which much damage was sustained. The water arose to the astonishing height of 16 feet perpendicular in 24 hours : a rise so rapid in the Severn and Avon, could not be remembered by the oldest man living.

In 1794, a very severe frost commenced on the 23d of December, and continued with little alteration till the 7th of February following. A sudden thaw took place on the

8th, which occasioned a greater inundation than had been known for many years, and did very great damage to the roads and bridges. At the height of the flood, the water rose to within a few inches of the memorable inundation of 1770 (just described). During this inclement season, the benevolence of the inhabitants was very liberally exerted in behalf of the poor housekeepers.

From that period to the present, no very extraordinary inundations have taken place.

Having, perhaps, detained the reader too tediously in our description of Tewkesbury*

* As we have given in our Appendix His Majesty's Visit to Cheltenham, we propose here describing *his Visit to Tewkesbury*.

On Wednesday morning, the 16th of July, 1788, our Gracious Sovereign George III. the Queen, the Princesses Royal, Augusta, and Elizabeth, attended by Lady Viscountess Weymouth, Lord Courtown, and the Honourable Colonel Digby, honoured this ancient borough with a visit. The King and his attendants, on horseback; the Queen, Princesses, and Lady Weymouth, in coaches. They were received with the most joyful acclamations, and every possible demonstration of loyalty was shewn on the occasion. The condescending behaviour of their Majesties, when passing through the

(always memorable for the bloody battle which terminated the cause of the Lancastrians), we shall now conduct him to the city of Worcester.

Three miles north of Tewkesbury, on the road to Worcester, is Twining ; on the left,

town, at once commanded the respect, and captivated the hearts, of the admiring spectators. The first place their Majesties alighted to view was the Mythe Tute, that delightful little eminence†, situated on the Mythe Hill. Upon their return through the town, they alighted to view that sacred and venerable pile of architecture, the Abbey Church. The concourse of people assembled was very great ; all anxious to behold their illustrious King and his amiable consort. After having seen every thing worthy of observation, his Majesty expressed great satisfaction, mounted his horse, and left the place amidst the reiterated plaudits of the multitude (grateful for the honour conferred on them by a royal visit), and returned with the Queen and Princesses to Cheltenham, to dinner, where they resided for the benefit of His Majesty's health. In the evening, the town was brilliantly and generally illuminated, without the least disorder or irregularity : all was harmony and joy, and each individual seemed desirous to rival the other in acts of respect and gratitude.

† A truly lovely prospect may be seen from hence : this rising ground is to the left, just as you gain the top of the ascent, after passing the causeway, in the road to Worcester.

a little beyond, is Ripple; on the right, about a mile out of the road, is Croome, the elegant seat of the Earl of Coventry, recorder of the city of Worcester. The present mansion was designed by Mr. Browne; and though part of an old building is preserved, the rooms are justly and conveniently disposed: the furniture is handsome; especially the French mirrors and the Gobelin tapestry, the finest perhaps in England. The park and pleasure grounds are upon a large scale; drained, and beautified by an artificial river, which has been carried for the distance of a mile and a half. The house at Croome, says a writer, in the *Agricultural View of Worcestershire*, is surrounded with 1400 acres of land, under the Earl's own inspection; upon which you do not see a thistle growing, nor a tree or bush undesigned, or out of place. It may, very justly, be stiled a pattern-farm for this kingdom, from its well-formed plantations, and its judicious and extensive drains. The late Judge Perrot used frequently to say, that Lord Coventry had brought a million of money into Worcestershire, by his skil-

ful exertions in making the roads throughout the county.

Half way between Tewkesbury and Worcester is Severn Stoke ; and three miles beyond, the pleasant village of Kemsey. The whole ride from Tewkesbury to Worcester is perhaps the most agreeable and interesting in this part of the country.

CHAP. IX.

Excursion to Worcester and Malvern.

WORCESTER,

Is a bishop's see, and a place of great fame and antiquity; it is situated in a fine vale, on the eastern bank of the Severn, nearly in the centre of the county to which it gives name. The surrounding country is remarkable for its variety and fertility, and the boundaries and other outlines of the view are every where pleasing. Towards the east, it is shielded by some fine woods, which, rising into a hill, terminate the view in that direction; and, at the same time that they conduce to the beauty of the scenery, add much to the salubrity of the place, by sheltering it from the easterly winds. It is open towards the north and south, and has generally a brisk current of air in that direction—the course the river takes, which

rapidly by the town. Towards the west, the sight is in some degree impeded by the swells which occur, yet the termination of the view is rendered by those undulations rather more pleasing; for the summits of the Malvern Hills deceive in the distance, and appear near to the city, though it be upwards of seven miles to the town of Malvern, situate at their basis.

Worcester was formerly surrounded with a very strong wall, and had six very handsome ports or gates, all of which have been judiciously taken down, in order to improve the different entrances into the city. The plan and construction of it are regular, and, considering its great antiquity, Worcester may be deemed as perfect as any city in the kingdom. Great improvements have been made at sundry periods in its various avenues; and the new communication between Sidbury and the south part of the High Street, not only adds much to the elegance of the place, but, in point of convenience, proves a valuable acquisition to the public. The streets are in general broad, so as to admit of a free circulation of air, and well

paved and lighted: of these, the Foregate Street, the High Street, and the Broad Street, are extremely regular and beautiful; indeed, the general appearance of the whole city does credit to its inhabitants, and indicates at the same time both taste and opulence.

Worcester, by some, has been deemed an unhealthy place, much subject to fevers; but this cannot be owing to the air or any natural cause, as the situation is remarkably dry and healthy, and instances of longevity in the inhabitants, by which its salubrity may be proved, are as numerous, as appears from its registers, as in any of the large towns in the kingdom. Great pains have of late years been taken, and great expenses incurred, to clean and enlarge the sewers, and to supply the city with water; the works erected for the latter purpose are on the Severn, about a mile north of the city, and cost upwards of 11,000*l*.

The government of this city is administered by a Mayor, Recorder, eight Aldermen and Justices, twelve Aldermen by courtesy (having served the office of Mayor),

and forty-eight Common Councilmen: there are also two Chamberlains, Town Clerk, &c.

It sends two Members to Parliament. The right of election was agreed to be in the freemen not receiving alms, 7th Feb. 1693; in the citizens not receiving alms, and admitted to their freedom by birth or servitude, or by redemption, in order to trade within the city, 11th Feb. 1747. In number the electors are about 2,400,

The Guildhall, which is placed nearly in the middle of the High Street, is a modern building, finished about the year 1723, from a design of Mr. White, a native of Worcester, and pupil of Sir Christopher Wren. The *façade*, which is remarkable for its elegance, is adorned with a variety of statues, and makes a very elegant appearance; neither is the inner part inferior to its external shew; the hall on the first floor is a handsome light room, 110 feet 6 inches by 25 feet 6 inches, and 21 feet high. Towards the west are two spacious Courts of Justice.

Over the above is the Council Chamber, a sumptuous apartment, somewhat larger than that below, and has been lately

beautified at a very considerable expense. In the centre, opposite to the entrance, is the portrait of his present Majesty, a present from him to the Corporation, placed on a pedestal of statuary marble, and otherwise elegantly embellished.

The Infirmary of Worcester is an elegant modern building, placed a little to the south of the Foregate Street: the pleasant and healthy situation in which it is built, renders it highly eligible for that purpose.

The old bridge over the Severn being narrow, inconvenient, and much out of repair, H. C. Boulton and J. Walsh, Esqrs. the Members for the City gave 3000*l.* either for repairing the old bridge or towards the erection of a new one. Accordingly, in the year 1781, an elegant and superb bridge was opened for the accommodation of the public, the expense of completing which, forming the avenues, quays, &c. are stated to amount to about 30,000*l.* It is a noble structure, built under the direction of the late Mr. Gwyn, doing credit to the builder, and forming, from its judicious si-

tuation, by far the grandest entrance into the city of Worcester.

The Glove Trade has been brought of late years into great repute and perfection, and is now carried on upon a large scale, the greatest part of it being for exportation. There are about 70 masters, and the number of the persons employed in this extensive manufactory may be fairly estimated at about 6000.

Worcester is also well known in the mercantile world, for its beautiful porcelain, great improvements in which have been made within these few years. The justest idea we can form of this porcelain is, that it is an half vitrified substance or manufacture, in a middle state between the common earthen ware and pure glass. The compositions used by the Chinese are well known by the names of *petensee* and *kaolin*, and upon examination similar substances were found in England, as well as in various parts of Europe. The late Dr. Wall, well known for his skill in chemistry, directed his researches to the investigation of these materials; and to his experiments the city of Worcester is

principally indebted for the establishment of this beautiful manufactory.

The following extract from an account by an anonymous writer, may assist in ascertaining the superior excellency of the Worcester China :---" The body of the Worcester " ware far exceeds every other in fineness and " whiteness, in which it almost, if not altogether, equals even the finest porcelain " of China itself, and is found to be much " harder and more durable than the body of " any other porcelain whatever. The glazing of it never nips, breaks off, or parts " from the body, except by extreme violence, " and then it discovers no brownness, such " as is often seen in the ordinary Chinese, " and almost always, after wear, in the other " kinds of porcelain : it is also perfectly clear " and transparent, which is a quality that " almost peculiarly distinguishes it from the " others of European manufacture."

But, what more particularly attracts notice is, the superior strength and beauty of colour of the Worcester porcelain ; for, it is to be observed, that the Chinese painters in perspective, and more especially those who

meddle with human figures, are sorry proficient; whereas in this manufacture, the most liberal encouragement is given to ingenious painters in emblematical compositions, landscapes, &c. Some years before the late war, great importations of this article were made from France, but happily British industry has now rendered them unnecessary; for the later productions of this manufactory have been deemed so superior in beauty and quality, that foreign orders form at the present period great part of the concern, and are rapidly increasing.

The Hop Market, situate almost in the centre of the city, is a large and regular pile of building, the interior of which forms an extensive quadrangle, surrounded by well-built warehouses; the rents of which, under the direction of the Guardians of the respective parishes in the city, are applied to the laudable purpose of supporting the House of Industry. The Hop trade in this city is conducted on an extensive scale, and, during the season, is the most considerable market in the kingdom for that essential article; three-fifths of the produce of the surround-

ing plantations being, on an average, brought thither for sale. The number of pockets sold for the last twelve years may be stated at 20,000 per annum, the price of which is so very precarious, that it would be futile to make any calculation on that head.

A few years ago the Carpet Manufactory formed a very considerable object in the trade of this city ; but as commerce is very fickle and capricious, we find little done in that branch of business at the present period.

The Bishopric was founded by Ethelred, King of the Mercians, at the request of Osric, a petty Prince of the Mercians, anno 680, and taken out of the diocese of Litchfield ; Tadfrith or Tadfrid being appointed the first Bishop. Before that time, namely, from about 657, one Bishop presided over the whole kingdom of Mercia. The diocese was formerly of much larger extent than at present ; Gloucester, which belonged to it, was erected into a Bishopric in 1541 ; and the following year the King appointed a Bishop of Bristol, part of which diocese,

viz. the Deanery of Bristol, likewise belonged to the see of Worcester.

At present the Bishopric of Worcester contains almost the whole of the county, excepting a few parishes and chapelries in the diocese of Hereford ; also about a third part of Warwickshire, the parishes of Brome and Clent in Staffordshire, and Hales-Owen in Shropshire. It is divided into nine deaneries, in which are contained 116 rectories, 79 vicarages, 29 curacies, and 41 chapels.

The fixed rents of the Bishopric of Worcester, clear of all deductions, were in the year 1799, 1302*l.* 15*s.* 4½*d.* ; since that time they are considerably increased, so that, on the average, they may amount to about 3000*l.* per annum.

Although the Cathedral has undergone considerable mutilations, it is at this time a fair and magnificent structure ; and though it shews a great variety of style by being erected at different periods, it presents, however, a grand and venerable appearance. The general plan is that of the double cross, a mode generally used in the construction of Cathedrals, and in which both the strength

and grandeur of the Gothic taste are eminently conspicuous. The improvements lately made both in the interior and exterior by the Dean and Chapter, do honour to their liberality ; and the whole of the building may now be deemed worthy of minute attention.

Dimensions of the Cathedral.

	Feet.
Length, from east to west - - - - -	394
— of the choir - - - - -	120
Breadth of the nave and aisles - - - - -	78
Height of the roof of the choir - - - - -	64

The Churches are, St. Helen's, St. Peter's, St. Swithin's, St. Nicholas, St. Alban's, St. Michael's, St. Martin's, All Saints, St. Clement's, and St. Andrew's; in the latter an object worthy of notice is its beautiful spire, erected by one Nathaniel Wilkinson, a native of Worcester, where he lived as a common stone-mason. It is supposed to be the most perfect in the kingdom, and is not only a real ornament to the city, but also a convincing proof of the skill and ingenuity of the builder. Most other spires, particularly that of Salisbury, so generally admired, seem to terminate abruptly, when examined by the

nicety of proportion ; but this of St. Andrew's rises from its base according to the most gradual and exact diminution : however, that the reader may form a more perfect idea of this beautiful piece of workmanship, we have subjoined the dimensions, as given by the builder in 1751 :

Dimensions.

	Feet.	Inch.
The height of the tower (part of the old Church) - - - - -	90	0
----- the spire - - - - -	155	6
Diameter of the base of the spire - - - - -	20	0
----- under the cap - - - - -	0	6½

Besides the Churches, there is in Sansome Street a neat Chapel for the use of persons professing the Roman Catholic religion.

The Presbyterian Meeting-house, at the west end of Angel Street.

The Quakers have a Meeting-house towards the south-west end of Sansome Street ; another in Friar Street.

The Meeting-house of the Anabaptists is situate in Lowesmore.

The Methodists have a Meeting-house in Pump Street.

Lady Huntingdon's Chapel is in Birdport.

This city gave birth to John Baskerville, one of the first printers in the world. He was born in Worcester in 1706, trained to a stone-cutter, and became afterwards a writing-master in Birmingham; but as painting suited his genius, he entered into the lucrative trade of japanning. In 1750, his inclination for letters induced him to turn his thoughts to the press. He spent much time and money before he could produce one letter to please himself, and his first attempt was a beautiful quarto edition of Virgil. He afterwards printed numerous books, which are well known, with more satisfaction to the literati, than emolument to himself. After his death, which happened in 1775, many efforts were made to dispose of his elegant types, but no purchasers could be found in the whole commonwealth of letters; the Universities coldly rejected the offer; the London booksellers understood no science like that of profit. The valuable property therefore lay a dead weight, till bought by a literary society at Paris, in 1779, for 3700*l*. The remaining copies of his impressions were

purchased for 1100*l.* by Mr. Smart, a respectable bookseller now living there.

The rout from Worcester to Malvern lies through the village of Powick, the residence of many families of respectability : two miles farther is Newland. After an easy ascent, of about a quarter of a mile, is

GREAT MALVERN;

A genteel place, where the visitors reside (though two miles distant from the Holy Well), who come in search of health and pleasure in these delightful scenes: it is about eight miles distant from Worcester; 24 from Cheltenham; and 120 from London. It is charmingly situated on the eastern declivity of the Malvern hills, and contains about fifty houses, interspersed with gardens, orchards, and plantations. The buildings are in general neat, and for the most part let during the season as lodgings. From hence the hill is peculiarly striking, and forms a strong contrast with the adjoining country, where cultivation and fertility are the predominant features in the landscape.

A variety of springs issues from the Malvern Hills, of various qualities, according to the substances they are impregnated with ; but that which has been for several ages reputed peculiarly salutary, and has obtained the name of the Holy Well, rises on the east side of the hill, half way up, about two miles from Great Malvern and one from Little Malvern, both in the county of Worcester. The source of the Holy Well is secured by a convenient erection, containing a bath, and other accommodations ; and at a short distance is a large and commodious Lodging-house capable of receiving a considerable number of people, who dine at a public table, and live very sociably together. There is a billiard-room to amuse the visitor when the weather is unfavourable for walking or riding ; but such is the romantic situation of the place, and the indescribable beauty of the landscapes, that strangers for some time will feel little disposition to *ennui*. Company, however, seldom stay long here ; but there is a constant succession from Cheltenham, and many other places, during the summer.

Near the Well House, as the hotel is called, are several delightful walks, which, by a winding ascent lead to the summit of the hill, from whence may be discovered at one view, Monmouthshire, Radnorshire, Herefordshire, Brecknockshire, Staffordshire, Shropshire, Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, Oxfordshire, and Warwickshire: the cities of Gloucester, Worcester, and Hereford, are visible, with several market towns, and, with the assistance of a glass, nearly 100 churches. The beautiful city of Worcester, about eight miles off, appears in all its pride from every point on the eastern side of the hills.

About a quarter of a mile above the church is St. Anne's Well, which is equally pure and salutary with the Holy Well, but less used. The ascent to it is by a zig-zag foot-path.

In the meadows below the village is a chalybeate spring, once highly celebrated, but now in a great measure neglected.

Great Malvern was formerly noted for its Monastery, which appears to have been founded about the year 1083, and rose by

the munificence of devotees to great wealth and consequence : but few vestiges now remain, except the church, which being purchased by the inhabitants was rendered parochial. This is still a magnificent structure, being 171 feet long, and 63 broad, with an embattled and pinnacled tower springing from the centre, 124 feet high: The style of architecture here is rather airy, considering the time when it was erected ; and the painted glass in the windows was once universally admired. It represented many scenes from scripture history ; But time and neglect have left them mutilated and broken, though enough remains to give an idea of their former beauty. Several parts of the choir are ornamented with a tessellated pavement, containing the coats of arms of many ancient and noble families. The tombs and monumental inscriptions are very numerous, and some of them very ancient. The inscription on Walcher, the second prior of Malvern, which was discovered in 1711, is dated 1135.

LITTLE MALVERN,

Which forms a separate parish, at the distance of three miles from Great Malvern, lies in a recumbent slope near the entrance of the great recess in the hill. It was once a considerable village, but now contains only five or six houses. Here likewise was a monastery, founded about the year 1171. Before the conquest, all the surrounding country was a wilderness, thick set with trees, to which some hermits retired, and their numbers increasing, they agreed to assume the monastic habit, and to live according to the order of St. Benedict. From this circumstance arose the convents both of Great and Little Malvern. The church of the latter, which is now ruinous, was rebuilt in 1482, by John Alcock, Bishop of Worcester, and was adorned with windows of painted glass, of which little now remains.

Near the church is an antique building on the site of the ancient monastery; which, viewed either from the hill above, or the plain below, is the object of admiration, from its romantic and sequestered situation.

THE MALVERN HILLS.

The extensive and lofty range of the Malvern Hills, distinguished by the striking elegance of their outline, lie in the three counties of Worcester, Gloucester, and Hereford, but principally in the south-west part of the former, making a distant boundary to the rich vale of the severn, lying to the east, and standing as a frontier between Worcestershire and Herefordshire: the range of hilly country, which beautifully diversifies the latter, terminates in these mountains; and from their summit the eye is gratified with a view of rich cultivation, and natural beauty, inferior to none which England can produce; consisting of numerous orchards, of large plantations of hops, and an agreeable mixture of open and arable land.

These hills are about nine miles in length, from north to south, and from one to three miles in breadth. The highest parts are those called the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Beacons, about four miles distant from each other; the former rising to about 1280 feet, and the latter to about 1313 feet

above the surface of the Severn, at Hanley, and appear much more elevated than they really are: still, however, they are lofty, and being placed in the centre of a level country, strike with a degree of grandeur, which in a less favourable country they would be divested of.

The more elevated parts of these mountains not being susceptible of cultivation, are uninclosed, producing chiefly gorse and fern, with a short sweet herbage, very grateful to sheep: their alpine heights are favourable for the production of vegetables that delight in a cold exposure, and the bottom of the hills have likewise their appropriate plants.

On the Herefordshire Beacon are the remains of an ancient camp*, consisting of a

* Within the distance of a musket-shot of the trenches of a camp, which is on the southern part of these hills, was found, in the year 1650, by Thomas Taylor, near Burstner's Cross, as he was digging a ditch round his cottage, a coronet or bracelet of Gold, set with precious stones, of a size to be drawn over the arm and sleeve. It was sold to Mr. Hill, a goldsmith, in Gloucester, for 37*l.*; Hill sold it to a jeweller in Lombard Street, London, for 250*l.*; and the jeweller sold the stones, which

double intrenchment, the outermost about half a mile in circumference. The avenues and passes are still to be seen, and the greatest part is in fine preservation : but whether the work is Roman, British, or Saxon, has not been determined.

About a mile and a half, further to the southward, on a protuberance of the hill, are the remains of another camp, consisting of only a single ditch : and on the declivity of the Herefordshire Beacon is a cave cut in the rock, about ten feet long, six broad, and seven high, of rude workmanship, and unknown origin.

The picturesque beauty and healthiness of the surrounding country have induced several persons of distinction to fix their residence in this district. Hope End, the seat of Sir Henry Tempest, bart. lies about three miles from Malvern Wells, and is a spacious mansion ; the grounds are remarkably well wooded and agreeably broken.

were deeply inlaid, for 1500*l.* ; as Mr. Clough, of Lombard Street, reported.—*MS. in Jesus College Library, Oxford.*

The villa of Mr. Brydges, in the same neighbourhood, is pleasantly situated, at the foot of a woody eminence. From Brand-Green Lodge, distant about a mile from Malvern Wells, and standing on an elevation 500 feet above the plain, is a fine view of the camp, which has already been mentioned.

At Eastnor, which is also on the western side of Malvern, and four miles from the Wells, is Castle-Ditch, the seat of Lord Somers. The greatest part of the building is ancient, but there are some elegant modern additions. Being built on a flat, this house loses the charm of distant prospects; but it possesses so many beauties within the appendant domains, that they are less required.

Near the southern extremity of Malvern Hills is Bromsberrow Place, the seat of W. H. Yate, Esq. a handsome building, with agreeable accompaniments and enchanting prospects.

Blackmore Park, in Worcestershire, about two miles from the Wells, is a modern and elegant structure, but possesses no extensive views.

Madresfield, the seat of the Lygon family,

is an antique but neat building, and commands delightful views of the Malvern Hills, from which it is distant about four miles.

Leaving Malvern (on the return to Cheltenham), about seven miles, is

UPTON.

This is a neat fair town, placed in rather a low situation on the banks of the Severn, over which it has a bridge, built by act of Parliament, in the reign of James I. at the expense of the county. During the civil wars, one arch was broken down, and a battery of Cannon placed in the churchyard, in order to hinder the parliamentary forces from crossing the river; but the object was not obtained. The town is tolerably large, containing about 432 houses, and 2376 inhabitants. The church is a neat structure, erected in the year 1758, the living of which is in the gift of the Bishop of Worcester. Many coins, and other pieces of antiquity, have been dug up here, but at present the town does not contain any remarkable buildings.—From Upton the road is through Tewkesbury back to Cheltenham, 16 miles.

CHAP. X.

Excursion to Cirencester.

CIRENCESTER*.

WE have already shewn the visitor the pleasant ride to Birdlip; continuing along the fosse-road, he will soon come in sight of Cirencester, in the centre of this straight road: of which place we think it proper to give the following description.

It is a very ancient city, by Ptolemy called *Corinium*; by Antonine, *Durocornovium*; by Giraldus, *Passerum Urbs*, the sparrow's

* Called in the Itinerary *Corinium Dobunorum*, and placed 14 miles from Glevum or Gloster, and 15 miles from Spina, now a small village, which still retains the name of Spine, and the lands near it Spinam Lands. The town of Newbury was built out of its ruins. It is said, that the Emperor Constantine was crowned king of the Britons in this city.

city, upon a report that Gurmunde, a tyrant from Africk, besieging this city, tied fire to the wings of sparrows, which, lighting in the town on inflammable matter, set fire to the whole. When the Romans were in Britain, they settled a colony at this place, and fortified the town with strong lofty walls extending two miles about; and a castle, the remains of which are still to be seen. Here their Consular ways* met, and crossed each other.

It is now a market and borough town: 89 miles W. from London; 35 from Oxford; 36 E. from Bristol; 33 from Bath; 17 S. E. from Gloucester; 16 from Cheltenham; 7 N. W. from Cricklade in Wiltshire, and 10 from Tetbury, on the Bath road; it is situated

* The great Fosse Way, the Irmin Street, and the Acman Street, by some called the Ickenild Way, which passed not far from Witney in its course to Cirencester, where the four great ways crossed.

Some historians say, "That the Acman Street was not one of the four, but was considerable for conducting to the city of Bath infirm people troubled with aches; whence that city, by ancient writers, was called Acanum, or Akeman Street."

on the borders of the Coteswold country, and on the river Ceri, or Corin, or Churn, whence it takes its name, the Britons calling it Caro, Ceri; *cair* signifying a walled and fortified town.

This town was first made a borough 13th Elizabeth, and sends two members to parliament, who are elected by all such house-keepers as do not receive alms from the parish; the number of electors between six and seven hundred.

The government of the town is vested in two High Constables, assisted by 14 of the principal inhabitants, called Wardsmen, chosen annually at the court-leet of the manor.

It has five annual fairs, viz. on Easter Monday; July the 7th; October the 28th, for all sorts of commodities; the week before Palm Sunday, and the week before St Bartholomew, for cloth only.

The beautiful Roman pavements, the square stones with Pont. Max. and other inscriptions, the coins, rings, and intaglios, that have been, and still are, found here in great abundance, bear sufficient testimony

to the antiquity and consequence of this place*.

* The coins are chiefly those of Antoninus, Dioclesian, and Constantine.

A tessellated pavement was discovered in 1777, under the shop and warehouse of Messrs. Robert and William Crome, in Dyer Street, about eighteen feet square, of which they had destroyed nearly half before it was taken notice of. The centre of it is still preserved, and consists of an octagonal border, inclosing a wretched figure, with rays pointed to the angles of the octagon. There was also a smaller figure of the same kind, in the middle of each apartment, and the pavement together had very much the resemblance of a rich Turkey carpet. Among other traces of Roman antiquities in this town, there is now, in the garden of Joseph Carpenter, in Lewis Lane, the remains of a Roman hypocaust or subterraneous stove. The most perfect and beautiful of the several pavements, which the removal of the soil has brought to light, is that in the house of John Smith Esq. in Dyer Street, discovered in 1783, of which a representation has been published, equally accurate and elegant. This drawing was taken in 1787 by Samuel Lysons Esq. F.S. A. and presented to the society of antiquaries, by whom it has been published. The design consists of fishes and sea monsters. Animals of all kinds (it is observed) are frequent subjects of the mosaic work. The celebrated pavement of the temple of fortune at Pre-neste, supposed to be as old as Sylla's time, contains a variety of birds, fishes, and beasts, with their names superscribed. And, not to go out of our own country,

The Earl of Bathurst's * seat is distinguished by its extensive and elegant plantations, laid out and perfected in the lifetime, and under the particular directions, of

the pavement at Woodchester (of which a splendid publication is extant, by the ingenuity of Mr. Samuel Lysons), has an elephant and birds; that at Littlecote had figures of panthers, sea-dogs, and dolphins; one of those at Winterton had orpheus surrounded by beasts; that at Sunsfield, Bacchus and several birds. The majority of their designs are emblems of their festivity, and therefore adopted to the floors of the Triclinia. "We are not (says the ingenious Mr. Warton) to suppose with Hearne that such remains always point out the habitation or post of a Roman general. For great part of 400 years the Romans occupied this island in a state of peace and tranquility: and a colony so fertile, and abounding in beautiful situations, must have been inhabited by many Roman adventurers, who migrated hither with their families, and built villas or country Seats, where they lived in some degree of opulence and elegance. Agricola introduced architecture. Even the Britons of rank might have built houses in the roman taste. Whenever we talk of the Romans in Britain, we think of nothing but rapine and hostility."

Bigland's Coll. p. 342

* A very ancient family, seated at Bathurst, near Battle-Abbey in Sussex, where their castle was demolished in the wars between the houses of York and Lancaster.

Allen Earl Bathurst, grandfather to the present noble proprietor. The entrance to the park is at a lodge on the north side of the house, by a spacious gravel walk, lined on each side by a row of stately elms.

To the westward of this park are the Lodge, Park, and Oakley Woods, which deserve particular notice; near the middle of them, on a rising ground, is the point from which, like so many radii, ten cuts or ridings issue; the largest, about fifty yards wide, has the lofty tower of Cirencester to terminate the view: others, directed to neighbouring country churches, clumps of trees, and various distant objects, produce an admirable effect. Concealed, as it were, in the woods, is Alfred's Hall, an excellent imitation of antiquity, with a bowling green, and many beautiful lawns and agreeable walks about it*.

The truffle is a vegetable production;

* For a very accurate description, and a beautiful view of Lord Bathurst's house, Oakley Park, Alfred's Hall, &c. see Mr. Rudder's History of Gloucestershire.

found in sufficient abundance in these woods.

The present parish church * is dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, and is a large and beautiful building, consisting of the nave, two large aisles, and five chapels. The roof is supported by two rows of stone pillars, very handsomely fluted, having five pillars and two pilasters in each row. The length of the nave is 77 feet, and the breadth of the church, including the two aisles, 74 feet. In the tower is a peal of twelve bells; it stands at the west end of the church, and is 134 feet high, well proportioned, and beautified with pinnacles and battlements; the south porch is a fine Gothic structure, facing the market place, 38 feet in front, and 50 high.

There was anciently two other churches here, dedicated to St. Cecilia and St. Lawrence; the one is become a private dwelling, the other converted into an hospital. Here

* This Church has twenty-eight windows of painted glass, representing scripture and church history, martyrs, confessors, and all the orders of the church of Rome, from the Pope to the mendicant friar.

are also a free school and a charity school, with several charitable foundations, on the west side of the town.

There used to be an annual concert in Oakley Wood in the month of August, and most of the people of fashion in the neighbourhood, and of the company from Cheltenham, resorted to it; but it has been discontinued for some years. From Cheltenham you may go directly to Park Corner, only 12 miles, but the road is not passable in bad weather.

The celebrated **BIBURY RACES** are run on a large common, about seven miles from Cirencester, which is also the Burford race course, and are attended by some of the first characters in the kingdom: the gentlemen riding their own horses. His Royal Highness the **PRINCE OF WALES**, usually honors the meeting with his presence, and does not fail to promote the cheerfulness and festivity of the meeting, by that elegance and good humour so peculiarly the province of his Royal Highness.

As some of the characters attending this

meeting, may, by chance, cast their eye upon this work, we trust they will not be displeased, if, among other matter, they discover some account of the village of

BIBURY.

A sportsman can have little interest in the dry walks of antiquarianism—nor does a high mettled racer care a doit about those four footed animals, who may have galloped over the course three centuries ago. We shall therefore study brevity ; and candidly confess, that for the following account we are indebted to the Collections of Mr. Bigland.

The ancient name of Bibury, in the time of the survey made by William the Conqueror, was *Bechebury*. It is situated on the great road from Bath to Oxford, 20 miles from Gloucester, and seven from Circencester.

The benefice is a very extensive vicarage, with the chapel of Winson annexed. The impropriation was granted to the abbey of Oseney, near Oxford, about the year 1130.

The peculiar * of Bibury is of uncertain

* Peculiars were instituted by Lunfranc, Archbishop of Canterbury, in the 11th century, who exempted all

establishment. It claims a prescriptive right, frequently contested by the diocesan, of providing its own chancellor.

The church is capacious and regular, of the architecture of the middle ages, re-erected, as it has been conjectured, by the convent of Oseney. The Tower, which is embattled, and contains six bells, stands at the end of the Nave, to which are added two aisles and the chancel, the property of the Lord of the manor and impropietor, Estcourt Creswell, esq. The colossal portrait of St. Christopher, once painted in Fresco on the north wall, is now totally defaced. He was not the tutelar saint of this church; and whether it be St. Mary or St. Michael, is not positively known.

The old Mansion House of Sir Thomas Sackville, who purchased the joint manors, is very spacious in the best style of the age in which it was built; the date (1632) remaining over the porch, with the arms of the founder, Sir Thomas Sackville.

his own advowsons in whatever diocese, from every episcopal visitation but his own. This custom afterwards obtained more generally.

The most picturesque landscape painters (continues Mr. Bigland), have scarcely imagined an amphitheatre more beautiful than that which forms the front prospect of this venerable building. Being situated on an easy eminence it commands the river Colne, and the hills above are covered with low wood, of the most variegated foliage; which, contrasted with the barren downs on the summit, complete a scene—perfect in its kind.

A CONCISE DISPLAY OF THE COUNTY.

Of the County of Gloucester.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE is so called from Gloucester, a handsome city, its capital, and *scyre*, a Saxon word, signifying a division, from *scyran* to cut or separate.

The inhabitants of this county, and of Oxfordshire, were called by the Romans *Dobuni*, which Dion has mistaken for *Bodunni*. The name is supposed to be derived from *Dwfn*, which, in the British language, signifies deep or low. By the *Dobuni*, therefore, were originally meant the inhabitants of the vale country. When the Romans were in Britain, there was no such particular district as Gloucestershire. After they had subdued this part of the island, almost as far as Scotland, they divided it into *Britannia Prima et Secunda*. The tract of country, which we now call Gloucestershire, lay in both provinces, because the river Severn divided them for a considerable length. That part

which lay on the S. E. of the river Severn, was in *Britannia Prima*, under the government of the president residing at London. The other part, on the N. W. of the Severn, which was formerly much more woody than at present, and had been possessed by the *Silures*, was in *Britannia Secunda*, under the government of the president residing at Caerleon, in Monmouthshire.

After the Romans quitted Britain, in the 476th year from Julius Cesar's coming over, the Saxons at length seized the reins of government, and the best part of the island falling into their hands, was divided into seven kingdoms, of which Mercia was one. At this time we know nothing of any smaller division of territory, for the name of the *Dobuni*, which distinguished the inhabitants of Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire, was utterly lost. This county lies in the Oxford circuit, is bounded on the N. W. by Herefordshire; on the E. by Oxfordshire, and a small part of Berkshire; on the S. by Wiltshire, and on the W. by a part of Somersetshire, the British Channel, and Monmouthshire. It extends itself in length from the

parish of Clifford Chambers, near Stratford-upon-Avon, to Clifton beyond the city of Bristol, in a S. W. direction, about seventy statute miles ; and in breadth, from Lechlade, north-west-ward to the parish of Preston, in the hundred of Botloe, about forty such miles.

The form of the county is elliptical, or more properly a rhomboides. It contains about one million acres of land, three boroughs,* twenty-six market-towns, twenty-nine hundreds, two hundred and eighty nine parishes, 46,457 inhabited houses, and 250,809 persons.

A vast range of hills, covered with wood in many parts on the north-west side adjoining to the Vale, reaches from Campden, on the borders of Warwickshire and Worcestershire, to Lansdown near Bath ; and runs through the county lengthwise, a little obliquely, with the course of the Severn ; dividing not very unequally, the vale and the

* Gloucester, Tewkesbury, and Cirencester, which send each two Members to Parliament, as does the county.

forest part of the county from the Coteswold.

Various parts of this chain of hills are denominated from the parishes in or near which they lie ; and many great roads are carried down them. The turnpike-road from London to Worcester leads down Broadway Hill ; that from Stow to Tewkesbury, down Stanway Hill ; from Cirencester to Cheltenham down Windlass Hill ; from London through Oxford to Gloucester down Crickley Hill ; but through Cirencester to Gloucester, you descend Birdlip Hill. From the east part of the county, to either of the passages over the Severn at Framilode, or Newnham, the road is down Rodborough Hill ; from Bath to Gloucester down Frocester Hill ; from Cirencester to Wotton, Dursley, and Berkeley, down Wotton, Dursley, and Stinchcombe Hills respectively ; from Oxford to Bristol down Sodbury Hill ; but from Oxford to Bath down Fryson Hill ; and the great road from London to Bristol leads down Tog Hill ; so that there is no possibility of passing directly from Oxfordshire, Berkshire or Wiltshire, to the Vale of Glo-

cestershire without descending one of the hills in this great chain, which stands as a boundary between the Coteswold and the vale; the latter being again separated from the forest by the interposition of the river Severn.

Birdlip and Crickley Hills are nearly the same height, the top of the first being about 1350 feet above the water of the Severn at Gloucester, and on a level with a great part of the Coteswold country.

Mr. Fosbrooke,* after quoting as I have done from Rudder, thus goes on—

“A finer county for the study of the picturesque cannot well, in my opinion, exist. It has every conceivable variety of scenery : and I shall attempt its picturesque character, after my own judgment of the picturesque, for *de gustibus non est disputandum*.

* Mr. Fosbrooke's Works lay claim to the originality of uniting, and that not in a trifling degree, the glowing genius of the poet with the indefatigable industry of the antiquarian. To this gentleman's History of Gloucestershire, now publishing in quarto, many of the following pages owe their contents.

“In hill countries, the destruction of the picturesque is assimilation. Tameness of outline and rectilinear curves produce a mere gibbous superficies : and when cultivation intrudes further, there is nothing to detain the eye beyond, but the back-ground which is formed to the scattered cottages below. But when this tameness is broken by the abrupt, bold outline ; when the sides are chastened from a showy green, or enlivened from the dull brown of the plow, by the happy medium of the sober heath, and its shaggy diversity ; or when the staring precipice of the broken side throws gigantic grandeur around ; when the deep and hollow declivity opens on the wide and fertile flat, bringing light, and its companion, cheerfulness ; or when, in less elevated eminences, the small wild clump and scattered forest trees are sparingly sprinkled over the breaks of smooth green lawn, unimpeded by petty shrubs, resigned to the borders of the quarry, or the bursting hollow of the ochreous spring ;—then the eye is satisfied : the strongest, I think, of all possible expressions on the subject. Both these effects are happily

produced, the one on the hills between Birdlip and Cheltenham; the other at a small spot at Mrs. Carruthers's, at Brown's Hill, on the road between Stroud and Painswick. Numerous other spots corroborate these remarks.

“Of the Coteswold country no other beauty can be furnished but what the country will afford. Without wood, without rock, without water, what remains but light, and its concomitant, cheerfulness? To those, who, like myself, form their ideas of the picturesque upon landscape, that cannot be found. The solitary farm, with its lofty rookery of elms embowering it, and wide champaign plowed lands with low fences (if they gently rise above it), is a pleasing object. At particular seasons, the strong colours of the yellow wheat, and glaring poppy, bestow gaiety. Such a country is only relieved from its uniform sameness, by a heath occasionally, not large, a well-timbered village here and there, and now and then a wood, the natural country being left open at spacious intervals, but of such extent only, as to adjoin a different state of scenery.

A single fine tree here and there has a good effect. Stone walls harmonize better with such a country than hedges : they do not so much break the expanse, and when become grey, melt into a colour scarcely perceptible from plowed grounds.

“In the vale, nothing is to be expected, but the reiteration (can it be too frequent ?) of the rural village. Fertile meadows, high aspiring elms, the shallow brook, the wooden bridge, the crowding cottages (provided there are no streets), the green lane, and a spire or tower half concealed, to bring the whole to an apex—these are beauties of the vale ; and in these Gloucestershire abounds.

“On the other side of Gloucester, near Herefordshire, beyond Corse Lawn, the country has gentle swells and hollows ; but it has no spirit. It is suffocated with timber : and the tame crowded hedge-row, and sight-obstructing orchard, with their prim formality, perpetually remind us of the truth of the trite adage, *Ne quid nimis*.

“On the banks of a large river, it is obvious that pleasant spots must be sought on

elevated ridges or hills behind, or where the sides are flat, in wood and cultivation at some, not great, distance. The Severn has happily the Forest to line it. Than this scenery, where it is not *too forlorn*, nothing can be more fine. Its general characteristic is, breaks of lawn and thickets, sweeps of high wood, groups of stunted pollards, all footed and entangled with briers and fretful shrubs (the wise provision of Nature to secure the young tree from injury till it is high enough to save itself), and a general wildness and variety, which highly delights by its contrast with cultivated objects. Mr. Gilpin gives rather an unfavourable opinion of forest scenery; but I apprehend he was biassed by the New Forest, with its reiterated sameness of tall beech, and which in parts is so dreadfully forlorn, that transportation more than beauty occurs to mind,—at least it did so to me.

“The hill country is certainly fine, inasmuch as it has neither the nakedness of the Coteswold, nor the uniformity of the vale. By taking in the rough projections and beech

woods *, which fringe its sides, by sweeping down all the flats with the eye, by possessing the liberty of changing position by bringing the side, back, and foreground into what bearing we please, a change and succession of fine landscapes are produced with magical celerity. Expansion of intellect is the pleasure of Heaven, (for from what else can result the pleasure of the beatific vision?) and no small portion of this pleasure is felt by the lover of picturesque beauty, when surveying the country from Uley Bury, From this eulogium, I fear, must be excepted the hills from Cheltenham to Winchcombe, and around the former place. Lackington Hill alone enlivens the tame belt of these Cheltenham eminences. The hills towards Winchcombe are at present mere downs, lifeless and unamusing, though the country below is agreeable. The valley there would not have been too wide for the

* Mr. Gilpin condemns the beech, because it has no discrimination of light and shade. This is true: but the fall of its branch in older trees is elegant, and its tint very cheerful.

river, had Nature thought proper to have passed it along there in its ample width. Stoke Giffard and its neighbourhood are exquisite.

“Of the bottoms, the sensation of the stranger is surprise ; but they are uniformly alike : a very narrow valley, with the sides lined with houses, woods, and fields. Single spots of uncommon beauty may be selected, but no good whole can, in my opinion, be made of them, because one side must be like the other, or else the view is the mere slope of an eminence. If the houses enliven them, they every day bring more and more sameness, and a confusion of identities must be the final result. It is however a singular scene, particularly to the stranger who has been used to a level country.

“To have something to look at is always a pleasure ; and it is to be hoped, that the picturesque, which depends mostly upon a judicious disposition of wood, will not be sacrificed in this fine country to a rage for orcharding : miserable, however, has been the havoc it has made. Let it still be re-

membered, that by planting timber trees both beauty and profit may be produced."

The county naturally divides itself into three parts: The Coteswold or hilly part; the Vale; and the Forest of Dean, separated by the river Severn: it is also divided into four districts or divisions.

1. Kiftsgate division (containing the eight hundreds of Kiftsgate, Slaughter, Tibbleston, Cleve, Cheltenham, Deerhurst, Tewkesbury, and Westminster) comprises the N. and N. E. parts adjoining to Worcestershire, Warwickshire, and Oxfordshire.

2. The seven hundreds division (containing those of Cirencester, Crowthorn, and Minety, Britwel's Barrow, Bradley, Raps-gate, Bisley, Longtree, and Whitston (lies S. S. W. of the former, with Oxfordshire and part of Berkshire on the E. and Wiltshire and Somersetshire, on the S. S. E.

3. Berkeley division (containing the seven hundreds of Berkeley, Thornbury, Pucklechurch, Langley, and Swineshead, Kings-Barton and Henbury, and Grumbals-Ash) extends from the seven hundred division to the extremity of the county towards Wiltshire

and Somersetshire, with the Severn on the N. W.

4. The Forest division (containing the six hundreds of St. Briavels, Blideslow, Westbury, Botloe, Dutchy of Lancaster, Dudston, and Kings-Barton) takes in all that part of the county, which lies on the N. W. of the Severn, and that part of the hundred of Dudston and Kings-Barton situate on the other side that river.

When this distribution was made is not known; but the most ancient division of counties into hundreds and tithings was by King Alfred.

There was formerly a custom called Wassailing, or going from house to house at Christmas or new-years eve, with a bowl *

* This was called a wassail bowl, derived from the Anglo Saxon, signifying to be in health. The bowl was carried by young women, who accepted little presents from the houses they stopped at. Formerly on new-years eve, our hardy ancestors used to assemble round the glowing hearth with their cheerful neighbours, and in the spicy wassail bowl drown every former animosity. An example worthy modern imitation ! wassail was the word, and wassail every guest returned as he took the

filled with toast and ale, or cyder ; but it is now grown much out of use in this country.

circling goblet from his friend, whilst song and civil mirth brought in the infant year. The wassail bowl or cup is still carried about in Yorkshire by women who sing carrols. The custom still prevails in Herefordshire, and in some parts of Monmouthshire, which, as it is different from any thing practised elsewhere, we shall take the liberty to relate :

On the feast of the Epiphany, soon after midnight, the bailiff of each farm, with all the other servants, proceed to a wheat field, generally the most conspicuous upon the estate ; where thirteen fires are lighted up, one of which is much larger than the rest. These fires blazing on every hill, and made still more visible by the darkness of the night, have a peculiarly striking effect upon a stranger, especially when he is a witness to the loud acclamations which incessantly reverberate throughout the district until sun-rise. It is hardly necessary to mention, that these rites are never performed without very plentiful libations of beer and cyder. At day-break the scene closes until the evening, when the maid-servants introduce a large plumb-cake, which is taken to the beast-house (a hole being bored through the middle of it), and put upon one of the horns of the principal ox. The Bailiff then receiving a cup of beer, repeats the following barbarous lines :

Here's to thee, Benbow, and to thy white horn,
And God send my master a good crop of corn ;

There are twenty-eight towns in the county of Gloucester, where markets are actually held.

<i>Berkeley</i>	- - - -	on	Tuesday
<i>Bisley</i>	- - - -	—	Thursday
<i>Campden</i>	- - - -	—	Wednesday
<i>Cheltenham</i>	- - - -	—	Thursday

Both wheat, rye, and barley, and all sorts of grain,
And this time twelve months I'll drink to thee again:
Do thou eat thy oats, and I'll drink my beer,
And God send us all a happy new year.

The Bailiff having drank this health, the other servants drink to the other oxen in the same words, only varying their names.

This done, the ploughboy goads the principal ox, and endeavours, by every means, to make him toss the cake off his horn. If the ox throws it before him, it belongs to the Bailiff,—if behind, to the ploughboy: but if it still remains on his horn, it is the property of the maid servants. This ceremony being finished, the door of the beast-house is fastened, and every spectator obliged to sing before he is suffered to depart. Upon quitting the beast-house, which must be done without the assistance of a candle, the ingenuity of the girls exerts itself in devising how to put tricks upon the company,—such as setting pails of water to tumble into, together with many other feats of equal pleasantry. The evening is concluded with general festivity and mirth.

<i>Cirencester</i>	- - - on	Monday and Friday
<i>Colesford</i>	- - - - —	Friday
<i>Dean</i>	- - - - —	Monday
<i>Dursley</i>	- - - - —	Thursday
<i>Fairford</i>	- - - - —	Thursday
<i>Glocester</i>	- - - - —	Wednesday and Saturday
<i>Hampton</i>	- - - - —	Tuesday
<i>Horsley</i>	- - - - —	Saturday
<i>Lechlade</i>	- - - - —	Tuesday
<i>Marshfield</i>	- - - - —	Tuesday
<i>Newent</i>	- - - - —	Friday
<i>Newnham</i>	- - - - —	Friday
<i>Northleach</i>	- - - - —	Wednesday
<i>Painswick</i>	- - - - —	Tuesday
<i>Stanley St. Leonards</i>	- - - - —	Saturday
<i>Sodbury</i>	- - - - —	Thursday
<i>Stow</i>	- - - - —	Thursday
<i>Stroud</i>	- - - - —	Friday
<i>Tetbury</i>	- - - - —	Wednesday
<i>Tewkesbury</i>	- - - - —	Wednesday
<i>Thornbury</i>	- - - - —	Saturday
<i>Wickwar</i>	- - - - —	Monday
<i>Winchcomb</i>	- - - - —	Saturday
<i>Wotton-under-Edge</i>	- - - - —	Friday

THE COTESWOLD.

The Coteswold is the high country on the S. E. of the before-mentioned range of hills. It is a noble champaign country, the residence of many nobility and gentry, and abounds in verdant plains, downs, cornfields, parks,

U

woods, and vallies, well supplied with springs and rivulets, and enjoys a fine healthy air ; which, however, in the higher and more exposed points, has been thought too thin for persons of tender and delicate constitutions.

Camden says "It takes its name from the hills and shepcotes, for mountains and hills the Englishmen in old times termed woulds ; upon which account the ancient glossary interprets the Alps the woulds of Italy."

It was anciently much overrun with woods, whence, I conjecture, it obtained its double name, for *coed* in the British language, and *would* in the Saxon, both signify a wood, and together make a kind of tautology, of which there are many like instances in the names of other places.

This country was always famous for feeding numerous flocks of sheep. Drayton has done it no little honour, who, in his poetic way, invokes the muse—

To tell

How Ev'sham's fertile vale at first in liking fell
With Cotswold, that Great King of Shepherds ; whose
proud site,
When that fair Vale first saw, so nourish'd her delight,

That him she only lov'd ; for wisely she beheld
The beauties clean throughout that on his surface
dwell'd.

* * * * *
T'whom Sarum's plain gives place, though famous
for her flocks,
Yet hardly doth she tythe our Cotswold wealthy locks ;
Though Lemster him exceed for finenesse of her ore,
Yet quite he puts her downe for his abundant store.
A match so fit as hee—contenting to her mind—
Few vales (as I suppose) like Ev'sham hapt to find :
Nor any other wold, like Cotswold, ever sped
So fair and rich a vale, by fortuning to wed.

Polyolb. Song 14.

The Coteswold farmers, who formerly used to send their sheep and cattle to winter in the vale, for want of fodder, have by bringing into use grass-seeds, turnips, and clover, become an opulent people, and now keep more than double the live stock they used to do upon their own lands, throughout the year ; which, while they feed and fatten, dung and fertilize the soil, and infallibly secure a good succeeding crop of corn.

Mr. Camden, who was a diligent inquirer, and a faithful historian, takes notice of the wool of this country, for its whiteness and fineness, wherein he is followed by a great

number of writers who have either never seen, or seeing, had no judgment in that article. What kind of wool this may have been four or five hundred years ago, we can have no knowledge of, except from history, but can speak with certainty as to the present condition of it.

The sheep of this country incline to the large size ; for since by the improvements of agriculture, the quantity of food is greatly increased, the farmers have both enlarged their flocks and improved their breed by introducing the Leicestershire ram, which is sometimes brought hither on little carriages made for that purpose,

On the Coteswold is a customary annual meeting at whitsuntide, vulgarly called an Ale or Whitsun-ale. Perhaps the true word is Yule, for in the time of Druidism, the Feasts of Yule, or the grove, were celebrated in the months of May or December. These sports are resorted to by great numbers of young people of both sexes, and are conducted in the following manner. Two persons are chosen previous to the meeting to be Lord and Lady of the Yule, who dress

as suitable as they can to the characters they assume. A large empty barn, or some such building, is provided for the Lord's Hall, and fitted up with seats to accommodate the company. Here they assemble to dance and regale in the best manner their circumstances and the place will afford, and each young fellow treats his girl with a riband, or favour. The Lord and Lady honour the hall with their presence, attended by the steward, sword-bearer, purse-bearer, and mace-bearer, with their several badges or ensigns of office. They have likewise a page or train-bearer, and a jester, drest in a parti-coloured jacket, whose ribaldry and gesticulation contribute not a little to the entertainment of some part of the company. The lord's music, consisting generally of a pipe and tabor, is employed to conduct the dance.

All those figures, handsomely represented in basso-relievo, stand in the north wall of the nave of Cirencester church, which vouches sufficiently for the antiquity of the custom. Some people think it a commemoration of the ancient drink-lean, a day of festivity, formerly observed by the tenants, and

vassals of the lord of the fee, within his manors; the memory of which, on account of the jollity of those meetings, the people have thus preserved ever since. It may notwithstanding have its rise in Druidism, as on these occasions they always erect a maypole, which is an eminent sign of it.

In the reign of James I. Robert Dover, an attorney, of Barton-on-the-Heath, Warwickshire, son of John Dover, of Norfolk, had leave from the King to select a place on the Coteswold hills (about Willersey and Campden) where certain games should be acted. Endimion Porter, to encourage Dover, gave him some of the King's old cloaths with a hat, feather, and ruff, and he was constantly there, well mounted and accoutred, and the chief director of the games, which were frequented by the nobility and gentry all round, till the rebellion put an end to them.*

* These periodical festivities have an excellent tendency in softening the manners and opening the heart, with all its generous affections. A maypole, with its dancers, may be compared to a kingdom, in the go-

THE VALE.

The Vale of Gloucestershire lies chiefly on the south-east of the river Severn, which

vernment of which all the wheels go round with readiness and ease, and cheerfulness, good order, and general happiness are diffused throughout the whole. Nothing more efficaciously contributes to the harmony of a neighbourhood than these rustic fêtes, nor perhaps can there be a wiser or a better sight than the human kind partaking of those delicious, yet rational recreations, which expand all the virtues of the soul. In vain would the monk prescribe penance and fasting, artificial prayer, and an habit of life!—Look at those realms where religion assumes a mild and benevolent form, and contemplate those where austerities and religious punishments have been enforced. Mark well the difference between a rustic of Great Britain, and the Italian with his stiletto, or the Spaniard with the inquisition at his heels!!

What should be our conclusions? Ought we not to thank heaven, that we live in a country where the laws are founded upon the very basis of christianity, and where religion is adorned by those who practice the moral excellencies commanded by its founder.

Let us not then deceive ourselves: when the country loses its simplicity, the capital loses its integrity—and when the heart of the kingdom becomes tainted, its whole constitution sinks rapidly to decay.

gives life and spirit to the soil. For extent and fertility, it is not exceeded, nor can it, perhaps, be equalled by any in the kingdom; therefore Drayton, with more historic justness than poetic licence, gives her the sovereignty in the following lines :

I, which am the Queene
Of all the British vales, and so have ever been
Since Gomer's giant brood inhabited this isle ;
And that of all the rest myself may so enstile.

What it more anciently was, may be seen in a passage taken by Mr. Camden out of a book entitled *De Pontificibus*, written by William of Malmesbury :

“The vale of Gloucestershire” says he “yields plenty of corn and fruit, in some places by the natural richness of the ground, in others by the diligence of the countrymen ; enough to excite the idlest person to take pains, when it repays his labour with the increase of one hundred-fold. Here you may behold highways and public roads full of fruit-trees, not planted, but growing naturally. The earth bears fruit of its own accord, much exceeding others both in taste and

beauty, many sorts continue fresh the year round, and serve the owner till he is supplied by a new increase. No county in England has so many or so good vineyards as this, either for fertility or sweetness of the grape. The wine in it has no unpleasant tartness or eagerness, and it is little inferior to French in sweetness. The villages are very thick, the churches handsome, and the towns populous and many."

In this vale is made the fine cheese, spoken more particularly of under the proper head, also cyder and perry. It abounds with coal likewise.

The lands are divided into two levels, called the Upper and Lower. Commissions are occasionally held, and orders and regulations made, for supporting the banks of the river, on which the preservation of the country depends. In each level, to receive and carry off the water, are ten or twelve pills or inlets, which, as well as the sea-wall, are repaired by those whose estates lie next them. A small sum is annually raised to defray the expense of the court sewers, by rating the parishes at 2d. an acre.

FORESTS AND CHASES.

The Forests and Chases of Gloucestershire were, Dean, Kingswood, Huntingford, Horewood, Corse, Buckholt, Minety, and part of Malvern, Harwell, and Ambresley ; besides these there was Micklewood Chase, one of the private chases of the Lords of Berkeley.

THE FOREST OF DEAN.

This Forest, which gives name to one of the four political divisions of the county, is celebrated in Drayton's lofty strains, as

Queen of Forests, all that west of Severn lie,
Her broad and bushy top Dean holdeth up so high,
The lesser are not seen, she is so tall and large.

Polyolb. Song 7.

It obtained the name of Dean, or Deane, from the ancient market-town of that name lying within its bounds and perambulation ; which town was so called perhaps from its remarkable low situation, being almost encompassed round with high hills and woods. The word is of Saxon original, and signifies a dale, a valley, or woody place, whence our

English word *den*, a hole or cave in the earth. Giraldus, and some others, gave this Forest the name of *Danubia*, and *Danica Sylva*, or the Dane's Woods, because they sheltered themselves here.

It appears by a survey made A. D. 1641, that the Forest of Dean contains within its perambulation 23,521 acres of the King's waste, lying within the hundred of St. Briavels; besides many other manors, parishes, vills, and places, to the amount of 20,000 acres, have been assarted or grubbed up, cleared, and made fit for tillage, taken out by purprestures, or inclosed, or more properly taken by incroachments, and granted away by the crown.

The whole forest, which is extraparochial, is divided into six walks, known by the respective Lodges built for the residence of so many keepers; each of which, besides a settled salary of 15*l.* per annum paid out of the Exchequer, has an inclosure of ground for his further encouragement.

The names of the Lodges are,

1. The King's Lodge, oftener called the Speechhouse, between Kinglo-hill and Daniel's moor.

2. York Lodge, at the upper end of Lumbar's Marsh.

3. Worcester-Lodge, upon Winsbury-hill.

4. Danby Lodge, upon the Old-Bailey-hill near Lidney.

5. Herbert Lodge, upon Ruerdean-hill.

6. Latimer Lodge, upon Danemean-hill, not far from the Beacon.

The castle of St. Briavels stands in the Forest of Dean, and gives name to one of the hundreds in the forest division. The King, *jure coronæ*, is seized of this castle, which is extraparochial, and is said to have been built, to curb the Welsh, by Milo earl of Hereford, in the reign of Henry the I. The ruins shew it to have been strong and of large extent, and formerly of great consequence, having been the residence of men of eminence in the government, who exercised great power in the forest: what now remains of the castle serves as a prison for criminals offending against the vert and venison of the forest, and for such as are convicted at the Mine Law Court, and at the Court of Pleas.

There are four Verdurers of the forest, elected by the freeholders of the county, by

virtue of the King's writ directed to the High Sheriff for that purpose ; and in the time of King Canute their fee was yearly of the King's allowance, two horses, one of which was saddled, one sword, five javelins, one spear, one shield, and 10*l.* in money.

There are three courts, common to all forests :

1. The Court of Attachment, held once in forty days before the Verdurers, who receive the attachment *de viridi et venatione* (of vert and venison), taken by the rest of the officers, and enroll them for presentment at the next justice-seat for punishment, this court not having the power to convict.

2. The Court of Swanimote, held before the Verdurers as judges, thrice in the year. This court can both inquire and convict, but cannot give judgment.

These two courts used to be held at the Speechhouse, which stands about the middle of the forest ; but have been neglected for some time.

3. The Justice-Seat Court, which is the highest, cannot be kept oftener than every

third year. It is held before the chief justice in Eyre, and has jurisdiction to enquire, hear, and determine, all trespasses within the forest ; and all claims of franchises, privileges, and liberties relative thereto : and before its being held, the regariders must go through and visit the whole forest, in order to present all kind of trespasses. Besides these three courts, the hundred of St. Briavels, being in the crown, retains the privilege of a court-leet, which is held at the castle, where there are also two other courts held, of peculiar natures. The Court of Record, held for the castle, the manor, and the hundred of St. Briavels, before the constable or his deputy, and the suitors of the manor, for trying all personal actions of whatever value arising within the hundred, and levying fines of lands in the same. All processes run in the name of the constable, or his deputy.

The Mine Law Court, for trying all causes between the miners, &c. concerning the mines : it is to be held before the constable as steward of the court, or his deputy ; besides whom, none are to be present but the

gaveller, castle clerk, and free miners, who must be natives of the hundred of St. Briavels, and have worked in some of the mines at least one year and a day. The parties and witnesses are sworn upon a bible, into which a piece of holly-stick is put ; and are obliged to wear the hoof or working cap on their heads during examination. Causes tried at this court are not determined by the forest laws, or by any written laws of the realm, but by such as are peculiar to itself. The miners execute the legislative power, and make new laws for their convenience, as often as they see occasion.

The privileges of the forest are very extensive. The free miners claim a right by prescription of digging iron ore and coal in the forest, and of carrying their coal-work begun there into the inclosed lands adjoining; also to cut timber out of the forest, necessary to carry on their works, as well in the lands of private persons, as in the King's soil.

And so long ago as 1779, it was computed they consumed annually about 1000 tons. The Foresters boast much of their indepen-

dency, as the productions of their country, are sufficient for them without having recourse to any other part of the kingdom. This proverb is very ancient among them—

“ Happy is the eye ’twixt the Severn and the Wye.”

There was formerly another forest in the county called Kingswood, situated near Bristol, but it was disafforested in the reign of Henry III.

Rivers and Canals:

THE principal rivers are three: the Severn, and the Warwickshire and Bristol Avons. The others of less note, and which flow into the principle ones, are the Isbourne, the Carrant, the Swityate, the Chilt, the Badgworth river, the Leaddon or Leddon, the Froome or Stroud river, Ewelme Alslam, the Berkeley Avon, the Isis or Thames (navigable as high as Cricklade), the Churn, the Coln, the Lech, the Windrush, and the Evenlode—this river is the boundary between Gloucestershire and Somersetshire for about twenty miles.

THE SEVERN,

Has its source from a large bog on the top of Plinlimmon, a mountain in Montgomeryshire, in North Wales, from whence running down with a swift current, and being joined by lesser torrents, it soon appears consider-

able; and passing by Llanydlos and Newtown, becomes navigable near Welch-Pool, where the river Vernew joins it with a stream very little inferior to its own: from whence, proceeding gently to Shrewsbury, which it surrounds nearly in the form of a horse-shoe, it flows on through a rich vale, with many extensive windings, till it comes to Benthall Edge; by the way receiving into it the river Tern, which waters all the north of Shropshire. Here the Severn begins to be rapid, being pent up between two opposite hills, both very lofty and steep; and from thence to Bridgenorth and Bewdley, the channel is confined by high woody banks and rocky cliffs, which afford a variety of beautiful prospects. Afterwards it again glides pleasantly on through the fertile plains of Worcestershire, visiting in its way the city itself, and a little below is considerably augmented by the influx of the river Teme. This addition however is much inferior to that which it receives from its junction with the river Avon at Tewkesbury.

The Severn is remarkable for its tide,

which rolls in with a head of three or four feet high, seeming to contend with the stream for superiority: they clash in such a manner, as to throw up the waters to a considerable height. This contest is called the *Hygre*, or Eager, probably from the French *Eau-guerre*, Water-war.

The grandeur of the Severn has been thus pourtrayed in a "Sonnet, written under a lofty cliff on the banks of the Severn, on a summer's evening:"—

The screaming sea-gull wheels its circling flight,
The dying breezes course along the shore,
The wild-floods, slowly settling, cease to roar,
And silence creeps behind the steps of night;
This craggy cliff, more pond'rous on its base
Now seems to lean. The winter whirlwinds sleep;
The moonbeams play upon the placid deep,
Entranc'd I lie reclin'd, and seem to trace
The time when here the harping bards of yore,
With awful prophecy's impressive air,
Sung to the ear appall'd of mute despair
The tale of future ages. On this shore,
Where nature blends her beauteous and sublime,
O let me waste what yet remains of manhood's prime!

Miscellanies by E. Gardner, ii. 5. 133.

The passages of this river are, at the Lower Load, a mile below Tewkesbury, by ferry.

At the Haw, six miles above Gloucester, by boat.

At Maismore Bridge.

At the bridge at Gloucester.

At Framilode, about ten miles below Gloucester, by boat.

At Newnham and Arlingham.

At Pirton, in the parish of Lidney.

At Aust, in the parish of Henbury and Beachley, in that of Tidenham correspondent houses*.

THE ISIS.

This has generally been considered as the head of the Thames, which, according to the current opinion, is so called from the junction of the names, Thames and Isis, their waters joining near Dorchester, in Oxfordshire, but it is proved from good authority,

* A new, correct, and easy method of knowing the hours, &c. to pass at Aust and New Passages, is inserted in the Appendix.

by the learned author of the additions to Camden's *Britannia*, that notwithstanding so plausible an etymology, this river, which Camden and others have called *Isis*, and *Ouse*, was anciently called *Thames* and *Tems*, before it came near the *Tame*.

WARWICKSHIRE AVON.

The first Avon, a British name, which signifies a river, rises near *Naseby* in *Northamptonshire*, enters *Warwickshire* at *Colthorp*, and passing by *Rugby*, *Warwick*, and *Stratford*, where it is navigable; runs by *Evesham*, enters *Glostershire* a little above *Tewkesbury*, and discharges itself into the *Severn*, about a mile below that town.

THE BRISTOL AVON

Takes its rise at *Tetbury*, in this county, which it quits immediately, and passing by *Malmesbury*, *Chippenham*, *Bradford*, and *Bath* (where it is navigable), runs to *Bristol* thence to *King Road*, where the *Bristol* ships first spread their sails when outward bound, and first cast anchor upon their return home. This river washes the western

borders of Gloucestershire, and is the boundary between it and Somersetshire for about twenty miles.

CANALS.

JUNCTION OF THE THAMES AND THE SEVERN.

History informs us, that so long ago as the reign of Charles II. a project was set on foot for uniting the Thames with the Severn, by cutting a channel of above forty miles in length; and that a bill was brought, for that purpose, into the House of Commons. Joseph Moxon, who was hydrographer to the King, and an excellent mathematician, drew a map for Mr. Matthews, to shew that the scheme was practicable.

The execution of this grand work, with others equally wonderful and useful, in different parts of this kingdom, was reserved however for the reign of George III. Mr. Robert Whitworth, that able and successful engineer in works of this kind, was employed in 1782, at the desire of several opulent private persons, chiefly merchants of Lon-

don (not the corporation), who had no local interest in either of the counties of Wilts or Gloucester, through which the canal passes. The act passed in the year 1783, and was agreeable to the plan and estimate of their engineer, who had stated the sum requisite for the undertaking at 130,000*l.* and was empowered to borrow a further sum of 60,000*l.* on mortgage under their common seal, to finish the said canal. So favourable an idea was entertained by the citizens of London of the utility of the junction of the Thames to the Severn, that if its completion had called for a million instead of 130,000*l.* the fund would have been presently subscribed. The connexions of one mercantile house alone subscribed 23,000*l.* and several others 10,000*l.* each.

This navigable canal begins at Wallbridge, near Stroud (at the very place where the Stroud navigation ends), and proceeds to very near Lechlade, on the river Thames, being a distance of thirty miles seven chains and a half, exact measurement. The general breadth of the canal is forty-two feet at top, and thirty feet at the bottom. In many

places where the ground is a dead level, it is considerably wider: the banks and towing paths are made entirely with the soil dug from the canal. The tunnel at Sapperton is nearly two miles and a half in length, being lined with masonry, and arched over at the top, with an inverted arch at the bottom, except in some few places, where the solid rock being scooped out renders it unnecessary: the expense of which was about eight guineas per cube yard. The boats are twelve feet wide, and eighty feet long, and when loaded draw four feet water, and will carry seventy tons.

On the 20th of April, 1789, Mr. Clowes, the acting engineer, left to conduct the business under Mr. Whitworth, who was then also employed in the Firth and Clyde canal navigation, in Scotland, passed through the tunnel at Sapperton, in a vessel of thirty tons burden; and the junction was completed, and a vessel passed from the Severn into the Thames for the first time on the 19th of November, in the same year, in the presence of a great number of people, who

came from all parts of the country, within ten or twelve miles, on the occasion.

When Their Majesties were at Cheltenham, they expressed a desire to view the tunnel at Sapperton, in the praise of which fame had been so lavish. Accordingly, on the 19th of July, 1788, His Majesty visited the entrance with astonishment and delight, and bestowed the highest praise on a work of such magnitude, expense, and general utility ; and expressed still greater satisfaction when he was informed, that it had been conducted and completed by private gentlemen.

The length of the Canal, we have before observed, is thirty miles seven chains and a half, of which from Stroud to Sapperton is seven miles three furlongs, with a rise of two hundred and forty-one feet three inches ; from Sapperton tunnel to Upper Siddington, and the branch to Cirencester, nine miles and eight chains and a half, and is level ; from Upper Siddington to Lechlade is thirteen miles four furlongs and nine chains, and with a fall of one hundred and thirty feet six inches.

STROUD CANAL.

The plan for making the river of Stroud-water navigable, was first formed, and an act of Parliament obtained for carrying it into execution, in the year 1730; but though this undertaking was promoted with great spirit, whether from the want of money, or some misunderstanding amongst those engaged in it, or on account of the supposed loss of water to the millers, it was never completed.

In the year 1755, a new survey, and an estimate of the expense of making the said river navigable, were ordered: but another scheme was soon afterwards proposed, by four private gentlemen, who undertook the work, at their own expense, without locks, (and consequently without any loss of water to the millers), by shifting the cargoes into boxes, and at every mill into other boats, by means of cranes. This proposal was preferred and accepted; and in the year 1759 an act was obtained for executing it. But this scheme likewise, which did not promise much benefit to the country, in the end to-

tally miscarried, and the projectors were nearly ruined.

In the year 1774, when many canal navigations had been successfully planned and completed in different parts of the kingdom, the project was again revived, of effecting the navigation of the Stroud-water to the river Severn by a new canal. New surveys were in consequence taken; plans drawn, and estimates made by Thomas Yeoman, engineer, F. R. S. and other surveyors, after the manner of the most improved inland navigations; whereby the old river is as much as possible avoided, and the interference with the mills, which has always been an obstacle, very much prevented, as the canal communicates with the river only in three places.

When an act had been obtained, which granted sufficient powers to complete the work, a subscription was opened for twenty thousand pounds, divided into two hundred shares, which was very soon filled. Articles were executed, stating the rights and powers of the proprietors; calls were made upon the subscribers, agreeable to the articles;

lands were purchased, and materials provided.

The course of this canal begins at Badbrook, at the edge of the town of Stroud, passes on to Cain's Cross, by Ebley, and across the main road at Stone Cross, and by Stone House, near Rycott Mill, and to Lockham Bridge; crosses the river near Whitminster Mill, and goes into the river Severn at Framiload; being in length something more than eight miles, and falls one hundred and two feet.

HEREFORD, NEWENT, AND
GLOCESTER CANAL.

In 1791, an act of Parliament was obtained for making this canal, which has the following course :—Beginning at Hereford, it goes northerly, and crosses the river Lugg, below Sutton St. Michael and Sutton St. Nicholas; whence it pursues an easterly course by West Hide, Cannon Froome, Munsley; crosses the river Leadon, below Bosbury, and pursues a southerly course, by Ledbury, Dinnington, to Dimock; about two miles below Ledbury it again crosses to the west

side of the river Leadon ; from Dimock it pursues an easterly course, for about four miles, and twice crosses the river Leadon, and passes by Pauntley, Upleadon, Newent (at three miles distance), Rudford, and Lassington ; again it crosses the river Leadon, and a branch of the Severn ; thence crosses Alney Island, and into the Severn opposite Gloucester. The length and lockage are as follow :—From Wide Marsh, near Hereford, to Withington Marsh is six miles, and level ; from thence to the beginning of the summit, near Monktride, is three miles, with thirty feet rise. The summit continues eight miles and a half to Ledbury, and is level : from thence to Gloucester, eighteen miles, with a fall of one hundred and ninety-five feet, seven inches ; making the total length to Hereford, thirty-five miles five furlongs ; with two hundred and twenty-five feet eight inches lockage. The collateral cut to Newent is three miles long, with a fall of ten feet to the junction. At the beginning of this canal, near Hereford, there is a tunnel of four hundred and forty yards ; and another about the middle of the summit, one thousand three hundred and twenty yards long.

The title of this body is "The Company of Proprietors of the Herefordshire and Gloucestershire Canal Navigation."

GLOCESTER AND BERKELEY CANAL.

This canal is to join the Severn, at a brook called Berkeley Pill, opposite the town of Berkeley; from whence, in a straight course, it is to pass Slimbridge, Frampton, Wheatenhurst, (where it is to intersect the Stroud canal,) Hardwick, Quedgley, and terminate on the south side of the city of Gloucester; making a line of eighteen miles and a quarter. There is to be a short cut to Berkeley; the whole is level, and there are locks at the two extremities for preserving the water.

The proprietors of this canal (33 Geo. III. ch. 97.) were incorporated under the name of "The Gloucester and Berkeley Canal Company," and have the customary powers for making and maintaining the canal, &c.

They were authorised to raise the sum of 140,000*l.* to be divided into shares of 100*l.* each; no person to hold more than thirty shares, unless the same come by act of law. If the former sum be insufficient, then they raise a further sum of 60,000*l.*

Produce of the County, &c.

THE County of Gloucester for fertility of soil, and the multifariousness of its productions, is equalled by few in the kingdom. Its produce may be said to consist of Corn, Fish, Apples, Pears, Hops, Bacon, Cheese, Wool, Timber, Coal, Iron, and Steel.

CORN.

Fruitful as the county is in this article, yet, on account of the number and greatness of its manufactories, and the vast consumption caused by the men, women, and children employed therein, there is reason to think that the quantity grown would not be sufficient for the county without an importation from some of the neighbouring ones.

FISH.

The fish taken in greatest abundance in this river are the salmon, shad, eels, plaice,

flounders, small soals, shrimps, small green crab.

The more scarce fish are the cod, whiting, garnet, dory, lamperns, small and large, tobacco-pipe fish, porpoise, herring, sprat, sturgeon, sand-dab, haddock, conger eel, char.

Salmon are found in the river Severn at all seasons of the year, but they abound most from Lady-day to Midsummer. They are called salmon *pinks*, from their smallest size to a pound weight ; a *swing*, from that size to four pounds ; a *botcher*, from four to eight pounds ; from that to sixteen, a *gilleon* : from that to the greatest growth of the fish, a *salmon*. They have been taken of 60 pounds in weight, When they reach the size of a botcher they spawn, The salmon goes into the smaller rivers to spawn. In a fortnight after they have spawned, they are called *new* fish ; but before they have cast the spawn, or roe, they are called old, and are sold for a fourth or fifth less than the new. The male Salmon attend the females, and undergo the same changes with regard to what gives them the

term of new and old. The extremity of the under jaw of the male salmon undergoes a remarkable change before *spawning*. It becomes so much turned up as to form almost a right angle, and penetrates nearly through the extremity of the upper jaw. From January to August an old fish is rarely met with. One of the marks of high perfection is the appearance of a white curdly substance lying between the more solid red parts.*

The Shad is a sea fish, of the herring kind, by some naturalists called *Clupea*. It is a fine fish, without the aid of any other sauce than fennel and butter.

The Lamprey and Lamperns (only differing in their size, the latter being the

* The salmon is an article on which a Gloucester citizen very justly prides himself: it is with the delicious *Severn crimped salmon* that the tables of Gloucester vie with the feasts of London: in return for the dory or turbot, the Londoner, on his visit to Gloucester, is regaled with Severn salmon. An epicure might expatiate on the solidity of the flakes, the crispness of the flesh, the firmness and general fine flavour of the whole fish—assisted by the essences and sauces of Burgess, Cox, &c. &c.

smaller, for which it is more especially famed), in Latin *lampetra*; also *alabeta* (from *alabes*, its Greek name); *gallexia* and *lumbri-cus marinus*, is a species of *petromyzon*. It is of a dark colour on the back, but of a fine clear light blue on the belly; has several rows of teeth, but no back bone nor gills; instead of these last, on each side of the throat are seven holes to receive water; they grow to the weight of three, and even ten or twelve pounds, and the length two feet and a half or upwards, and are in season from January to March or April, being then fattest, but in the summer months, are harder and lean, though at all times much esteemed and scarce: they are potted at Gloucester when in season, and sent all over the kingdom.

The Severn also produces the Elver, a species of fish which the Editor of Camden, by mistake, supposes not to be found in any country but Somersetshire. If the spring be mild and open they generally appear about the middle of April, when they cover the surface of the water, more especially about the mouths of rivers that empty themselves into the Severn. They are of a dark brown

colour, about two or three inches long ; the country people skim them up in great abundance, scour and boil them, then bring them to market as white as snow, where they are sold from one penny to six pence per pound. They are either fried in cakes or stewed ; some stew them with saffron.

CYDER

Is a production of the vale, which no county in the kingdom can surpass. There is a great variety, but it may be divided into three classes. The stout bodied, rough, masculine cyder, made of Longney russet, Hagley crab, winter-pippin &c. The full bodied, rich, pleasant cyder, of the Harvey russet, woodcock, golden pippin, winter quinning, &c. and a sort made of the Bodnam apple, fox-whelp, and various species of kernel fruit ; which, though placed last in order, might perhaps have stood with more propriety in the second class, being of a nature between the other two, as partaking of the properties of both. There is also some styre made in the vale, but not in that perfection as in the Forest of Dean.

Perry being a liquor of a distinct species, must not be omitted. The best of the produce of this county is that made of the Taunton squash pear, the Barland pear, and the mad pear. His Royal Highness the late Prince of Wales, father to his present Majesty, on his tour through this country in 1750 gave it the name of *Champagne d'Angleterre*. It is a delicious, sprightly liquor when in perfection, but a person when hot should never drink of it freely.

Styre cyder is almost peculiar to the Forest of Dean, and yields a most extraordinary price ; but besides this particular sort, it is the opinion of very competent judges, that the Foresters make the best cyder in the kingdom.

In the year 1763, though the crop of apples was so great, that vast quantities were suffered to rot for want of casks to put the cyder in, yet, even then the best old styre sold at 15*l.* 15*s.* per hogshead, and it is since still considerably advanced, nor can the price of it be fixed, it being chiefly purchased by persons of fortune ; and it is asserted, that Gloucestershire cyder is worth

more in the maker's cellar, than the finest wines in the world, in the respective countries of their own growth, owing to the styre apple-tree not being a plentiful bearer, and its cyder, from accidents altogether unaccountable, particularly liable to injuries in keeping, so that its proving good is very precarious.*

BACON.

Glostershire bacon is esteemed very good, and large quantities of it are annually sent to London and Bristol.

CHEESE.

The quantity of cheese made in the county is calculated in the following manner : The vale, allowing for the Severn, is estimated

* In the year 1801 there was also a prodigious crop of apples. Many farmers had some of their finest liquor wasted owing to their not being able to procure casks ! Old wine pipes brought as much as 36s. each. It is in such seasons as these that coopers make fortunes ! Seldom or never do two abundant ones succeed each other : and kindly is it so ordained, perhaps more sickness, riot, and waste would abound in two succeeding fruitful seasons, than is generally imagined.

at 500,000 acres; 350,000 of them are in pasture, of which admit 158,000 acres to be fed by milch cattle: then at three acres to each cow, the stock will be 50,000. The most usual calculation is 300 cwt. to a cow, according to which the sum of the whole years making in the vale will be 7,500 tons. But there are milk beasts kept in other parts of the county. If you allow 20 to every 3000 acres upon an average, then on 500,000 acres will be found 3333 milch cattle, from which, according to the above proportion, may be made 500 tons of cheese, and together the years making will be 8000 tons for the whole county.

For the three or four last years, cheese upon an average has sold at about 62*l.* 12*s.* per ton. The greatest part of it is sent by the factors to London, a considerable quantity of it goes to Bristol, and to the fairs at Gloucester, Stow, Lechlade &c. and so is disposed through the country.

The best cheese is made in the hundreds of Berkeley, Thornbury, and the lower division of Grumbals Ash, of various sizes, from ten pounds to a quarter of a hundred

weight each. The thick sort is called Double Gloucester, and Double Berkeley, and usually sells upon the spot at eight pence per pound. In proportion to its size and thickness, it should be kept to a certain age to make it fit for the table, and when in perfection it surpasses every other cheese, foreign or English.

COAL.

Most places in this county, within ten or twelve miles E. and N. E. of Bristol, abound in coal mines, something of the nature of those at Newcastle ; and even the small, when wetted and thrown on a good fire, melts and forms into a very durable mass. The upper part of the county is supplied with coal out of Shropshire down the Severn, which burns quick and lively, but is not so durable. This is the sort used in Cheltenham.

Sir Robert Atkyns, in his History of this County, says " That if a line were laid from the mouth of the Severn to Newcastle, and so passed round the globe, coal is to be found within a degree of that line, and scarce any where else in the world." What grounds

he could have for such an assertion, it is difficult to determine. And a later author, Mr. Rudder, treats it as uncommonly whimsical and ridiculous, as facts and experiments are and ever will be wanting to support it.

CLOATHING MANUFACTURE.

The principal manufactory of this county is for Woollen Cloths of various sorts.

Many centuries ago the city of Gloucester was famous for its cloth manufacture, where Brook Street, situated on Full-Brook, was the place of habitation for clothiers, dyers, and shearmen ; and even as lately as 1629, there was a company of clothiers in that city.

It was considerable at Cirencester in the reign of Henry IV. who granted a charter to a company of weavers there, which still subsists, and it has flourished at different times in various other parts of the county. But nature pointing out the most convenient situation for carrying on this manufacture, which requires plenty of water for driving the fulling mills, and scouring the wool, it

has long since been seated principally on the borders of the little rivers and brooks in the parishes of Eastington, Bisley, Hampton, Stroud, Painswick, Woodchester, Horsley, Stonehouse, Stanley, Uley, Dursley, Wotton-under-Edge, and neighbouring places of less note, where the master-clothiers live.

This manufacture is divided into four branches:

The country or inland trade, which yields about 250,000*l.* per annum.

The army trade, and that with the drapers in London, 100,000*l.* per annum.

The Turkey trade, 50,000*l.* per annum.

The East-India Company trade, 200,000*l.* per annum.—Total for this county only, 600,000*l.*

GLOCESTERSHIRE SOCIETY

IN LONDON.

As we have, in our account of Cheltenham, noticed the charitable institutions there, we cannot close our work without briefly mentioning "The Gloucestershire Society," instituted in the year 1767, for the purposes of

apprenticing the children of the deserving poor of the county.

The object of this benevolent institution is to call forth the liberal contributions of such Gentlemen as are natives of the County of Gloucester, or are in any other respect so connected with it as to be interested in support of its character, for the laudable purpose of *apprenticing the children of the deserving poor belonging to the county*, who might otherwise be destitute of the means of acquiring a comfortable subsistence through life. The support of this charity arises from three sources :

I. A yearly subscription of *one guinea* (independent of all occasional contributions) from each governor, and of *twelve shillings* from each member of the society.

II. A collection made by the stewards at each anniversary.

III. Donations sent by subscribers who, being out of town at the time, or from any other cause, are unable to attend the anniversary in person. Such donations may be transmitted to the stewards on the day of the anniversary, or at any other time, by

letter addressed to the *Committee of the Gloucestershire Society, at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, Strand.*

This benevolent institution is under the direction of a Patron, a President, six Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, and a Committee of five Gentlemen. A subscription of one guinea annually, or twenty guineas at once, constitutes a governor for life. A subscription of twelve shillings annually, or ten guineas at once, constitutes a member for life.

The premiums which were originally 10% have of late been raised to 15% and the society has it in contemplation to extend its benevolence to the lending small sums of money to the objects of the charity, on their completing their apprenticeship, and commencing business for themselves.

LOCAL PROVERBS.

We conclude our sketch of the county with the Local Proverbs, as taken from Grose's humorous work the "Provincial Glossary."

As sure as God's in Gloucestershire.

A saying originating from the number and riches of the religious houses in this county; said to be double in number and value to those founded in any other in England.

You are a man of Dursley.

Used to one who has broken his promise; and probably alluded to an ancient and notorious breach of faith by some inhabitants of that town, the particulars of which are now forgotten.

It's as long coming as Cotswold barley.

This is applied to such things as are slow, but sure. The corn in this cold country, on the Woulds, exposed to the winds, bleak and shelterless, is very backward at the first, but afterwards overtakes the forwardest in the county, if not in the barn, in the bushel, both for quantity and goodness thereof.

A Cotswold lion.

That is, a sheep; Cotswold being famous for its sheep-walks or pastures.

*He looks (or seems) as if he had lived on
Tewkesbury mustard.*

Said of any peevish or snappish person, or one having a cross, fierce, or ill-natured countenance. Tewkesbury is a market-town in this county, famous for its mustard, which is extremely hot, biting, and poignant, and therefore, by this proverb, supposed to communicate those qualities to persons fed with it.

As thick as Tewkesbury mustard.

Said of one remarkably stupid. See *Shaksp. Hen. IV.*

*The Tracies have always the wind in
their faces.*

A superstitious legend. Sir William Tracy was one of the four knights who killed that turbulent prelate Thomas Becket; for the punishment of which offence it miraculously happened, that whenever any of the Tracy family travelled, either by land or by water, the wind always blew in their faces. This, Fuller justly observes, was, in hot weather, a blessing instead of a curse, exempting the

females of that family from the expence and trouble of buying and using a fan.

The following song is considered as the great provincial song of the county, and the dialect is easily recognised by an inhabitant; but the orthography, as here given, by no means conveys an adequate idea of it.

GEORGE RIDLER'S OVEN,

A right famous old Gloucestershire Ballad.

I.

THE *stwon*s that built George Ridler's Oven,
And *thauy qeum* from the *Bleakeney Quaar*;
And George *he wur* a jolly old *mon*,
And his *yead* it *graw'd* above his *yare*.

II.

One thing of George Ridler I must commend,
And that *wur vor* a notable *theng*;
He *mead* his *braags avoore* he died,
Wi' any *dree* brothers his *zons zshou'd zeng*.

III.

There's Dick the treble, and John the mean,
(Let every *mon zing* in his *awn pleace*;))

And George he *wur* the elder brother,
And *therevoore* he would *zing* the *beass*.

IV.

Mine hostess's *moid* (and her *neaum 'twur* Nell)
A pretty wench, and I loved her well ;
I loved her well, good *reauzon* why,
Because *zshe* loved my dog and I.

V.

My dog is good to catch a hen ;
A *duck* or *goose* is *vood vor* men :
And where good company I spy,
O *thether gwoes* my dog and I.

VI.

My *mwother* told I, when I *wur* young,
If I did *vollow* the strong-beer *pwoot*,
That *drenk* would *pruv* my *auverdrow*,
And *meauk* me wear a *thzread-bare cwoat*.

VII.

My dog has gotten *zitch* a trick,
To visit *moids* when *thauy* be *zick* ;
When *thauy* be *zick* and like to die,
O *thether gwoes* my dog and I.

VIII.

When I have *dree zixpences* under my thumb,
O then I be welcome wherever I come ;
But when I have none, O then I pass by,
'Tis poverty *pearts* good company.

IX.

If I should die, as it may hap,
My *greauve* shall be under the good *yeal* tap;
In *vouled earms* there *wool* us lie,
Cheek by jowl my dog and I.

APPENDIX.

ACCOUNT OF *THE ROYAL VISIT* TO *Cheltenham Spa,* IN 1788.

HIS MAJESTY having been advised by Sir George Baker to drink the Cheltenham water on the spot, the late Earl Fauconberg's house on Bay's-Hill was fitted up for the Royal reception; and on Saturday, July the 12th, 1788, about five in the afternoon, their Majesties, accompanied by the Princess Royal, Princess Augusta, and Princess Elizabeth, and attended by Lady Viscountess Weymouth, the Hon. Col. Digby, and Col. Gwynne, arrived at this delightful spot; where they were received by the Earl and Countess of Courtown, who had been some time at Cheltenham previous to the intended visit.

Every demonstration of joy was exhibited on the occasion;—bells ringing, a general illumination, and music parading the streets, were only the outward shew of the heartfelt satisfaction which the inhabitants experienced; by whom every possible measure was adopted and pursued to prevent any interruption of happiness during the Royal residence at this place.

The next day Sunday, the 13th, their Majesties and the Princesses attended divine service in the parish-church, where three pews had been fitted up for them in a plain but neat manner. The service was read by the Rev. Mr. Hughes, and the sermon preached by the Right Reverend Dr. Halifax, late Lord Bishop of Gloucester.

In the afternoon their Majesties walked into the town, and visited the rooms: but were prevented by the rain from promenading the well walks.

On Monday the 14th, his Majesty began drinking the water, and was at the well a little after six o'clock in the morning, which was afterwards his usual hour.

After breakfast he rode out, attended by Col. Digby and Col. Gwynne, and so in general continued to do during his stay; occasionally visiting the places most worthy notice in the neighbourhood; among which were,

Sudley-castle, the property of Lord Rivers

Oakley-park, the seat of Earl Bathurst

The Tunnel, which unites the Severn with the Thames

Dowdeswell

Southam

Birdlip

Painswick

Hewlet's

Charlton-Kings, the seat of Mr. Hunt

Sandiwell, the late Mrs. Tracey's

Rencomb, the Bishop of Salisbury's

Croome, the Earl of Coventry's

Matson, Mr. Selwyn's

Tewkesbury, and its environs, &c. &c.

July 24th, their Majesties went to Gloucester, were received at the Bishop's Palace, and there addressed by the Mayor and Corporation; and on Sunday the 27th they attended divine service at the Cathedral.

Aug. 1st, His Royal Highness the Duke of York arrived, on a visit to their Majesties, with whom in the evening he went to the play. A general illumination took place on this occasion also. On the morrow the Royal Family went to Hartlebury Castle, the seat of the Right Reverend Dr. Hurd, Lord Bishop of Worcester; and after their return, his Royal Highness set off for London. The house he inhabited during his short stay, was a wooden house, originally erected in the town, but removed entire to Bay's-Hill for his accommodation: it was brought back to a spot opposite Church-Mead, and is now destroyed.

July 30th, the Mayor, Recorder, and Corporation of Bristol addressed his Majesty; as did the Mayor, Town-Clerk, and Justices of Bath on August 5th: in the afternoon of which day their Majesties and the Princesses set out for Worcester, to be present at the Meeting of the Three Choirs of Worcester, Gloucester, and Hereford, which began August 6th, and was on this occasion more numerous attended than was ever before known; insomuch, that notwithstanding the extraordinary expenses the Stewards were at to procure a fuller band than usual, &c. they were enabled to make a saving of 500*l.* for the Charity. The Royal residence was at the Episcopal Palace, where his Majesty received the Address of the Corporation; and on Saturday returned to Cheltenham, and went in the evening to the play.

Thursday August 14th, their Majesties went to Hill-

house, the seat of Sir George Paul, Bart. and to Woodchester-park, the seat of Lord Ducie, where the whole process of the woollen manufactory was shewn and explained to them. It is supposed sixty thousand people were assembled at the above places, and on the road.

On Friday evening there was a very full attendance at the Well, previous to their Majesties going the third time to the play ; and at 8 o'clock on Saturday morning, August 16th, their Majesties quitted Cheltenham ; when, the Gentlemen being all drawn up on the parade before the Hotel to pay their respects on the occasion, the band of music of Lord Harington's regiment (which had been sent here to play every evening during the promenade in the walks), and the town band, playing "*God save the King*," their Majesties gave an additional mark of the very great condescension which they had shewn ever since their arrival ; for proceeding only a foot-pace, while they passed the company, they most graciously bowed to them, and gave reason to think that the regret on their quitting the place was equally felt on all sides. Every heart glowed with rapture as they passed ; and all united in the general shout of

" God save the King !

" Long live the King !

" May the King live for ever !"

Indeed, nothing could have been more pleasing than to behold a Sovereign, at a hundred miles distance from the capital, enjoying the blessings of private life among his subjects, without a single guard !—nor did he want any : for every one by his respect and affection for his

person sufficiently testified, that he was ready if needful to protect him.

The inhabitants of the County of Gloucester, indeed, considering themselves particularly and signally honoured by his Majesty's residence at Cheltenham, unattended with the retinue of royalty, and reposing the safety of his person in the love of his people—greatly favoured with witnessing the truth of what fame had reported of the endearing condescensions and engaging tenderness of his Majesty, the Queen, and amiable Princesses—highly delighted with the opportunities of observing with their own eyes the example set by their Majesties of conjugal felicity and domestic enjoyment—and supremely gratified with tracing the source of his Majesty's just and mild government in the benignity of his royal disposition—will ever feel, with the warmest satisfaction, the impressions which these circumstances were so eminently calculated to make.

We think it due to the spirit and merits of the late Mr. Moreau, to give our readers an account of the

MEDAL ON THE KING'S RECOVERY.

To commemorate the Royal Visit to Cheltenham, and his Majesty's happy recovery, Mr. Moreau, M. C. caused a Medal to be struck. This medal was at first intended to be stricken solely to commemorate his Majesty's visit to Cheltenham, but by a misfortune of the artist's breaking two dies, it could not be brought forward before his Majesty's illness took place; and on the appearance of his recovery, Mr. Hancock, who sunk the dye, suggested the idea of making it commemorate

that happy event also, owing to which the medal bears the two dates of 1788 and 1789.

The face represents the figure of Hygeia, the Goddess of Health, with her serpent, an emblem of longevity, and patera to nourish it ; on the pillar, on which the patera is placed, is a medallion of the King (which is considered a striking likeness of his Majesty), encircled by a young oak, another emblem of longevity, with the date 1789, the year of his recovery ; inscribed

GEORGIO III. OPTIMO PRINCIPI.

To the most excellent Prince George the Third.

On the reverse, a representation of Cheltenham Well, emblematical of the Temple of Health, inscribed,

OB SALUTEM RESTAURATAM.

ON HIS RESTORED HEALTH.

Below which is inscribed,

S. MOREAU,
ARBIT. ELEG.
CHELTENHAM.
EXCUD. CUR.
1788.

S. Moreau, M. C. Cheltenham, caused this Die to be sunk, 1788.

This Medal was worked off on St. George's Day, 1789, by Mr. Phipson and Mr. Hancock, of Birmingham ; and presented to their Majesties by the Earl of

Courtown, in gold and silver, on Monday April 27; also to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Dukes of York and Gloucester, the Princess Royal, and the Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth, who were with their Majesties at Cheltenham; also to the British Museum, and the two Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

CHEL TENHAM REPOSITORY.

THE object of this Institution is to form a Fund for the Relief of the sick and Industrious poor. This is done by subscriptions, by donations in works, and by the proprietors of all other works leaving one third or one fourth part of the price of each article, according to the rules of the repository.

Receipts for the year 1802.

	£.	S.	D.
Balance in hand from the last year's receipts	5	3	10
By subscriptions - - - - -	52	1	6
By gifts in work - - - - -	19	16	1
By a gift of the spinning fund (now closed)			
to the repository - - - - -	9	8	2
By the sale of 1749 articles of work - -	248	9	8
By the sale of peas purchased last year for			
the poor - - - - -	0	13	6
Total.	£. 335	12	9

Expenditures for the year 1802.

£. S. D.

Given to the sick, the industrious, and the distressed poor, for particulars of which, see the book of cases now lying at the Repository, for the inspection of the public - - - - -	100	3	11
Given to the relief of some very estimable persons whose names through delicacy do not appear in the book of cases - -	7	12	0
Purchase of flannel and stockings sold for the poor at the Repository. - - - -	2	2	0
Purchase and expense of making several articles of cloathing for the poor, sold at the Repository - - - - -	5	14	6½
Paid to the different ladies who sent their works to the Repository their two thirds, or three fourths, according to the rules of the institution - - - - -	180	12	7½
Shop hire, altering the shop, and shelves for ditto - - - - -	15	12	0
Wages of the Shop woman 9 <i>l.</i> 12 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> lost 2 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> - - - - -	11	14	6
Postage, and carriage of boxes and parcels 4 <i>l.</i> 8 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i> printing and distributing hand bills and accounts; paper for the shop, and contingencies 4 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>s.</i> - - -	8	9	1
Expenses of a sale by auction, of the remaining goods on hand at the close of the Repository for the season - - - -	3	11	11
	<hr/>		
	£.	335	12 9

POSTS, COACHES, WAGGONS,

&c.

POSTS.

Mr. CHARLES HAYES, Post-Master.

COMES IN, every Day (except Monday) *about eleven o'clock*, from London, Maidenhead, Henley, Nettlebed, Oxford, Witney, Burford, Northleach, to Cheltenham.

Letters delivered generally at the window of the Post Office about a quarter before twelve.

GOES OUT, every Day (except Saturday) *a quarter past four in the afternoon*, from Cheltenham to London.

—The letters for this Post must be put in the Office by half past three o'clock.

GOES OUT, every morning about eleven, for the following places :—To Gloucester, Painswick, Stroud, Minchinhampton, Cirencester, &c.

To Ross every day (except Monday).

To Wotton-under-Edge, Bristol, Bath, the West of England, and over the New Passage to Chepstow, Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, Carmarthen, Pembroke, Hubbertstone, and *by packet* to Waterford, and the Southern parts of Ireland.

Also, to Tewkesbury, Worcester, and all parts of Worcestershire, Birmingham, Coventry, Warwick,

Stratford on Avon, &c. Litchfield, and all parts of Staffordshire, Derbyshire, Shropshire, Cheshire, and Lancashire; Kendal, Sheffield, North Wales, Holyhead, and *by packet* to Dublin and the Northern parts of Ireland.

COMES IN, from the above places, every afternoon.

GOES OUT, *Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, about eleven o'clock in the morning*, to Mitcheldean, Colford, Monmouth, Hereford, Hay, Brecknock, Llandovery, Carmarthen, Cardigan, &c. Also to Ledbury, Newent, and Newnham.

COMES IN, *Sundays, Tuesdays, and Fridays*, from Ledbury, Newent, Newnham, Mitcheldean, Colford, Monmouth, Hereford, Hay, Brecknock, Llandovery, Carmarthen, Cardigan, &c.

All the above letters arrive by the Mail Coach in the afternoon.

COACHES.

MAIL COACH, sets out of London every evening at half past six o'clock, from the Angel Inn, back of St. Clement's, in the Strand; calls at the Golden Cross, Charing Cross, and the Gloucester Coffee-house, Piccadilly; through Brentford, Hounslow, Colnbrook, Slough, Maidenhead, Henley, Nettlebed, Benson, Dorchester, Oxford, Ensham, Witney, Burford, New Barn, Northleach, Frogmill, and arrives at the George Inn, Cheltenham, about eleven o'clock; proceeds to Gloucester, &c.—Returns to Cheltenham about a quarter past four in the afternoon, on its way to London.

OLD HEAVY COACH, sets out from London every afternoon at one o'clock, from the Bull and Mouth, Bull and Mouth Street; calls at the Green Man and Still, Oxford Street; through Uxbridge, Beaconsfield, High Wycomb, West Wycomb, Stoken Church, Tetsworth, Wheatley, Oxford, Ensham, Witney, Burford, New Barn, Northleach, Frogmill, and arrives at the Lamb Inn, Cheltenham, about eight o'clock in the morning; proceeds to Gloucester, &c.—Returns to the Lamb Inn, about two o'clock in the afternoon, for London.

And every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, sets off from Gloucester to Ross and Hereford.

Also every Saturday, Wednesday, and Friday, from Gloucester, to Ross, Monmouth, Abergavenny, Brecon, Llandovery, Llandilo, Carmarthen, Haverfordwest, and Milford-haven.

ORIGINAL POST COACH, sets out of London every Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday, at one o'clock, from the Bolt in Tun, Fleet Street; calls at the Dolphin, Oxford Street; through High Wycomb, Oxford, &c. arrives at the Crown Inn, in Cheltenham, about eight o'clock in the mornings of Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; proceeds to the Booth Hall Inn, Gloucester: from whence it returns the same days to the Crown Inn, Cheltenham, about two o'clock in the afternoon, on its way to London.

POST COACH, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings, at ten o'clock, from the Crown Inn, Cheltenham, through Gloucester, to the Christopher, Market-place, Bath: from whence it returns every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, to Cheltenham.

WAGGONS.

BYRCH's *London, Cheltenham, Tewkesbury, Winchcomb, and Stow Common Stage Waggon*, sets off from his warehouse in Winchcomb Street, Cheltenham, early every Monday morning, and arrives at the George Inn, Snow Hill, London, the Thursday morning following : returns from thence the same evening, and arrives at Cheltenham every Tuesday morning, and Tewkesbury every Wednesday. Takes up and leaves parcels at the Green Man and Still, Oxford Street ; also takes up parcels at the Black Bear, Piccadilly.

Calls at the following places.

<i>Towns.</i>	<i>Inns.</i>	<i>Goes to London.</i>	<i>From London.</i>
Tewkesbury	Star and Garter	Saturdays and Tuesdays	
Stow	White Hart	Monday	Mondays
C. Norton	Crown and Cushion	Tuesday	Mondays
Islip	Red Lion	Tuesday	Sundays
Tetworth	Royal Oak	Wednesday	Saturdays
Beaconsfield	Saracen's Head	Wednesday	Fridays

DAWES's *London Waggon*, sets out from Cheltenham every Monday morning, and goes through Tewkesbury, Winchcomb, Stow, Toddington, Guiting, Chipping-Norton, and Oxford, to the Bell Inn, Warwick Lane, London, on Thursday morning ; calls at the Green Man and Still, Oxford Street, coming in and going out : returns the same day, and arrives at Stow, Toddington,

Winchcomb, and Tewkesbury, every Monday—Cheltenham, every Tuesday—and Gloucester, every Friday.

HEANE's *Northleach, Burford, and London Waggon*, sets out from his house in the Westgate Street, Gloucester, every Monday and Wednesday evening, and arrives at the King's Head Inn, Old 'Change, London, the Friday and Monday following : returns from thence Saturday morning and Monday night ; calls, going in and coming out, at the Green Man and Still, Oxford Street, and the Black Bear, Piccadilly ; and finally returns to Gloucester every Wednesday and Friday evening, calling at the Crown Inn, Cheltenham.

HOOPER's *Gloucester Waggon*, sets out from his house in Cheltenham, No. 90, every Wednesday and Saturday morning, to the Horse and Groom, Gloucester, meets the Bristol, Ross, Monmouth, and South Wales Waggons, and returns in the evening.

HARDING's *Waggon*, from the Cross Keys, every Saturday morning, to the Star, upon the Key, Gloucester ; returns the same evening.

DOBBINS's *Tewkesbury Waggon*, sets out from his house, the sign of the Sun, in Cheltenham, every Wednesday and Saturday morning, to the Cross Keys Inn, Tewkesbury, meets the Worcester, Birmingham, &c. Waggons, and returns in the evening.

BISHOP's *Cart* sets out from his house in Cheltenham, No. 5, every Monday for *Cirencester*—Wednesday, for *Tewkesbury*—and Saturday, for *Gloucester* ; returns the same evenings.

SLY's *Caravan*, from his house, near the Upper Rooms, every Tuesday, to the King Bladud, Bath ; returns every Friday.

WE are enabled to give our readers the following Itinerary, by the consent of Mr. CARY, from his "New Itinerary, or accurate Delineation of the Roads of England and Wales."

This book differs materially from others of the same description ; which are in general mere transcripts one from the other, with the exception of the last generally containing new errors, from the desire of avoiding similarity. Mr. Cary's work is founded (" in consequence," as Lord Kenyon said, " of impositions that were practised on the public by following Paterson's book,") on an *actual* survey and measurement of 10,000 miles, made by command of His Majesty's Postmaster General, for official purposes ; and exhibits immense labour, and an accuracy hardly to be expected in a work of this kind, containing nearly 500 double pages.

ITINERARY.

ABBREVIATIONS, &c.

Sometimes T. R. for Turnpike Road.—r. and l. right and left of the Road.—T. G. Turnpike Gate.—P. O. Post Office.—M. H. Market House.—M. and F. Miles and Furlongs.—Market Towns in small Roman Capitals.—Cities in full Roman Capitals.—The first two Columns express the Distance from one Place to another; the last, the Distance of each Place from the Point where the Route commences.

The *Italic Words* and Abbreviations, immediately following the Place to which the Measurement is directed, imply the exact Point of Distance.

LONDON TO OXFORD, through Henley.

	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F
Kensington— <i>Church</i>					Slough—P. O.	12		20	4
Hammersmith— <i>Windor</i>					At Slough, on l. a turnpike road to Datchet.				
Castle	17		35		Salt Hill— <i>Windmill</i>	6		21	2
Turnham Green— <i>Old</i>					Maidenhead Bridge.	4		25	2
Pack Horse	13		5		Cross the Thames river.				
London Stile	1		6		Enter Berkshire.				
Star and Garter	1		61		MAIDENHEAD—M. H.	6		26	
At the Star and Garter, a road to Kew and Richmond.					From Maidenhead, on r. a turnpike road to Great Marlow.				
BRENTFORD—M. H.	1		71		Golden Fleece	6		26	6
Cross the Brent River.					At the Golden Fleece, on l. a turnpike road to Reading.				
Through Brentford, on l. a turnpike road to Hampton Court.					On r. through the Thicket to				
Smallberry Green—T. G.	11		82		Hurley Bottom—T. G.	97		90	5
HOUNSLOW—George	11		93		HENLEY-ON-THAMES				
Through the town, on l. the great turnpike road to the Land's End.					—Bell Inn Oxon.	44		35	1
Cross Hounslow Heath.					At Henley, on l. a turnpike road to Reading.				
Cranford Bridge—White Hart	27		122		Half a mile from Henley, on r. a turnpike road to Marlow.				
Sipson Green—Maggies	12		134		Bix—T. G.	24		37	5
Longford—King's Head.	14		15		Nettlebed—P. O.	22		39	7
Cross the Coln river.					Nuffield Heath—	13		41	2
Enter Buckinghamshire.					At Nuffield Heath, on l. a turnpike road to Wallingford.				
Colnbrook—M. H.	16		166		Beggar's Bush	25		49	7
A mile beyond Colnbrook, on l. a turnpike road to Windsor.					Bensington—P. O.	22		46	1
Langley Broom	14		182		Shillingford	13		47	4
Tetworth Water	1		192		At Shillingford, on l. a turnpike road to Reading.				

	M	P	M	P		M	P	M	P
ing; on r. to Aylesbury.					Tetworth—Swan Inn	21		42	2
Dorchester.— <i>White Hart</i>	15		49	1	Near 3 Miles from Tetworth, on r. a turnpike road to Thame; on l. to Wallingford				
At Dorchester, on l. a turnpike road to Abingdon.					Cross the Thame river to Wheatley—P. O.	61		48	3
Nuneham Courtenay	34		52	5	On l. the Old Road to Oxford; and about 1 mile further, on r. a turnpike road to Chipping Norton.				
Sandford	17		54	4	Forest Hill	16		50	1
Littlemore	7		55	3	Headington	21		52	2
OXFORD— <i>Angel Inn</i>	25		58		Headington Hill	1		53	2
LONDON to OXFORD,					On l. the Old Road to Wheatley.				
<i>through High Wycombe.</i>					St. Clements	5		53	7
Kensington Gravel Pits—T. G.			14		On l. a turnpike road to Henley.				
Shepherd's Bush— <i>White Horse</i>	19		27		Cross the Charwell river.				
Acton— <i>George</i>	17		46		OXFORD—at the junction of the roads from Abingdon and Gloucester	6		54	5
Ealing— <i>Old Hats</i>	25		73		OXFORD to CHELTENHAM.				
Hanwell— <i>Brent River</i>	6		81		OXFORD—as by the last route			54	5
On l. a turnpike road to Brentford.					At Oxford, on r. turnpike roads to Woodstock and Bicester; on l. to Abingdon.				
SOUTHALL— <i>Red Lion</i>	12		93		Cross the Isis river to Botley	14		56	1
Hayes— <i>Church.</i>	23		116		On l. a turnpike road to Faringdon.				
Cross Hayes Common to Hillingdon— <i>Church</i>	15		193		Cross the Isis river, and re-enter Oxfordshire.				
UXBRIDGE— <i>M. H.</i>	14		147		Eynsham— <i>Church</i>	42		60	3
Cross the Coln River.					Hill Houses	31		63	4
Denham Place	2		167		Shore's Green	7		64	3
Tatling End— <i>T. G.</i>	12		181		WITNEY— <i>M. H.</i>	13		65	6
<i>Bucks</i>					At Witney, on r. a turnpike road to Woodstock.				
On r. a turnpike road to Aylesbury.					BURFORD— <i>Church</i>	72		73	
Gerrard's Cross— <i>White Hart Inn</i>	16		197		At Burford, on r. a turnpike road to Stow; on l. to Faringdon.				
BEACONSFIELD— <i>Church</i>	33		232		About a Mile from Burford, on l. a turnpike road to Cirencester.				
Hotspur Heath— <i>King's Head</i>	12		244		Barrington— <i>New Inn</i>	31		76	1
Loudwater	15		261		<i>Gloucestershire.</i>				
Wycombe Marsh— <i>R. Lion</i>	11		272						
HIGH WYCOMBE— <i>Market Place</i>	15		287						
On r. a turnpike road to Amersham; on l. to Great Marlow.									
West Wycombe	25		314						
Stoken Church, Oxon	46		362						
At Stoken Church, on l. a turnp. road to Marlow.									
Postcombe	37		401						
At Postcombe, on r. a turnpike road to Thame.									

353

A A

	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F
<i>turnpike road to Dursley and Stroud.</i>					Sandford	1	183		
Church End—T. G.	22	26	1		Clifton	5	19		
<i>At Church End T. G. on r. a turnpike road to Bath.</i>					Draycot	5	195		
<i>Cross the Stroud Canal over Frome Bridge.</i>					Kemsey—Talbot	11	206		
Whitminster Inn	1	27	1		Timberdine	17	225		
<i>At Whitminster Inn, on r. a turnpike road to Cirencester.</i>					<i>Near Worcester, on r. a T. R. to Persbore, Evesham, and Alcester.</i>				
Putloe	12	29	3		WORCESTER—Cross	23	25		
Parkin Green	5	29			<i>At Worcester, on l. a T. R. to Upton, Ledbury, Hereford, Bromyard, Tenbury, and Bewdley.</i>				
Hardwicke Elm	16	30	6		Fernhall Heath	3	28		
<i>At Hardwicke Elm, on r. a T. R. to Cirencester.</i>					Claines	4	284		
Quedgeley	6	31	4		Martin	7	293		
GLOUCESTER—Town Hall	33	34	7		Copcot	6	301		
<i>At Gloucester, on r. a turnpike road to Stroud and Cirencester; on l. to Chepstow, Monmouth, Ross, Newent, Ledbury, and Upton.</i>					DROITWICH—George	15	316		
Wootton—T. G.	1	35	7		<i>At Droitwich, on r. a T. R. to Alcester; on l. to Bewdley.</i>				
<i>On r. a T. R. to Cirencester—also the old road to Frogmill.</i>					Rashwood Green	13	331		
Staverton Bridge	36	39	5		Upton Warren	13	344		
Haydon's Elm	12	40	7		BROMESGROVE—Golden Cross	31	375		
Bedlam	16	42	5		<i>At Bromesgrove, on l. a T. R. to Kidderminster.</i>				
<i>On l. a T. R. to Tewkesbury.</i>					<i>Through Bromesgrove, on r. a T. R. to Alcester; on l. to Stourbridge.</i>				
CHELTENHAM—M. H.	15	44	2		<i>2 miles from Bromesgrove, on l. a T. R. to Dudley.</i>				
CHELTENHAM TO BIRMINGHAM.					Lickey Hill	44	421		
To TEWKESBURY—as by the Excursion			9		Northfield	26	447		
<i>At Tewkesbury, on r. a T. R. to Stow, Persbore, and Evesham.</i>					<i>At Northfield, on r. T. R. to Stratford-on-Avon; on l. to Dudley.</i>				
<i>Cross the Avon river.</i>					Selly Oak	2	467		
Twining	24	11	4		Burnbrook	4	473		
Stratford	21	13	5		BIRMINGHAM—George	32	505		
Naunton	13	15			TO STOURBRIDGE.				
<i>½ of a mile from Naunton, on l. a T. R. to Upton; on r. to Persbore.</i>					To WORCESTER		25		
Earls Crome	5	15	3		Hawford Bridge	3	28		
Severn Stoke	2	17	3		<i>Cross the River Salwarp</i>				
					Ombersley	2	30		
					<i>At Ombersley, on r. a T. R. to Droitwich; beyond, on l. to Bewdley.</i>				
					Waresley House	1	31		
					Hartlebury	4	314		
					<i>Over Hartlebury Common</i>				
					KIDDERMINSTER	34	35		

ITINERARY.

355

	M	P	M	P		M	P	M	P
Broad Waters Gate	11	36	1		At Wilton, on r. a T. R.				
2½ miles from Broad Waters Gate, on l. a T. R. to Wolverhampton.					to Hereford.				
Everley	92	39	3		Upper Wear	7	27	4	
Cross Stourbridge Common					Lower Wear	5	28	1	
STOURBRIDGE	22	41	5		Pencraig—T. G.	13	29	4	
					Goodrich Cross	11	30	5	
					Old Ford	4	31	1	
					Whitchurch	11	32	2	
					Ganarew—Church	11	33	3	
					Dixton—Church	17	35	2	
					Monmouthshire				

CHELTENHAM TO MONMOUTH.

Bedlam			15		Monmouth—Town Hall	1		36	2
On r. a T. R. to Tewkesbury.									
Haydon's Elm	16		33						
Staverton Bridge	12		45						
Wooton—T. G.	36		83						
On l. the Old Road to Frogmill.									
GLOUCESTER—Town Hall	1		93						
At Gloucester, on r. a T. R. to Tewkesbury; on l. to Bath and Bristol.									
Cross the Severn River and Hereford Canal, and ½ a mile further cross another branch of the Severn to									
Over	13		106						
At about ½ a mile on r. a T. R. to Newent.									
Highnam	5		113						
At ¼ of a mile on l. a T. R. to Newnam.									
Churcham	2		133						
Birdwood	17		152						
Over Birdwood Common to Huntley	13		165						
At Huntley, on l. a T. R. to Mitchel Dean.									
May Hill	7		174						
Longhope	22		196						
Lea	14		212						
At Lea, on l. a T. R. to Mitchel Dean.									
Weston Church	23		235						
Herefordshire									
Ross—M. H.	22		257						
At Ross, on r. a T. R. to Ledbury.									
Cross the Wye River.									
Wilton—T. G.	6		265						

TO HEREFORD.

To Ross, as before			25	7
Cross the Wye River.				
Wilton—T. G.			6	26
At Wilton T. G. on l. a T. R. to Monmouth.				
Harewood End Inn	43		31	
Llandinabo—Church	11		32	1
Great Birch—Church	15		33	6
Cross in Hand—T. G.	16		35	4
On l. T. R. to Monmouth.				
Callow—Guy's Head	6		36	2
HEREFORD—M. H.	37		40	1

CHELTENHAM TO COVENTRY, thro' Stow.

About 5 miles from Cheltenham, on l. the T. R. by Andover's Ford Inn, and through Guiting to				
STOW-ON-THE-WOLD				
Tunnington	15		19	5
Moreton-in-the-Marsh	23		22	
At Moreton-in-the-Marsh, on r. a T. R. to Chipping Norton; on l. to Evesham				
Within a mile of Halford Bridge, on r. a T. R. to Shipston; on l. to Stratford-on-Avon.				
Halford Bridge	10		32	2
Warwickshire				
Over Easington	24		34	6
At Over Easington, on r. a T. R. to Banbury; on l. to Stratford-on-Avon.				
Wellesburne Hasting	44		39	2

	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F
<i>At Wellesbourne Hasting,</i> <i>on r. a T. R. to Ban-</i> <i>bury; on l. to Stratford-</i> <i>on-Avon.</i>					<i>At Marlborough, on r. a</i> <i>T. R. to Chippenham.</i>				
<i>Barford</i>	32	42	4	4	<i>Cross the Kennet River,</i> <i>and on l. a T. R. to</i> <i>Hungerford.</i>				
<i>Cross the Avon River.</i>					<i>Thro' Severnake Forest to</i> <i>Burbage</i>	6		48	1
<i>Longbridge</i>	19	43	6	6	<i>Over the Downs to</i> <i>East Everley</i>	53		53	4
<i>At Longbridge, on l. a</i> <i>T. R. to Stratford-on-</i> <i>Avon.</i>					<i>At East Everley, on r. a</i> <i>T. R. to Devizes.</i>				
WARWICK	12	45			<i>To Salisbury, across the</i> <i>Downs, through Old</i> <i>Sarum, 16 miles; thro'</i> <i>Amesbury and Old Sa-</i> <i>rum, 17; through Ames-</i> <i>bury, and round Stone</i> <i>Henge, 19.</i>				
<i>At Warwick, on r. a T. R.</i> <i>to Banbury and South-</i> <i>am; on l. to Birming-</i> <i>ham and Henley-in-Ar-</i> <i>den.</i>					<i>Over the Downs to</i> LUDGERSHALL				
<i>Guy's Cliff—T. G.</i>	19	46	9	9	<i>Near Weyhill, on l. a</i> <i>T. R. to Amesbury.</i>	4		57	4
<i>Wooton Leek</i>	5	47			<i>Weyhill</i>	4		61	4
KENILWORTH	26	49	6	6	<i>Near Andover, on r. a</i> <i>T. R. to Salisbury.</i>				
<i>At Kenilworth, on l. a</i> <i>T. R. to Birmingham,</i> <i>Sherwsbury, and Cole-</i> <i>hill.</i>					<i>Cross the Anton River.</i> ANDOVER	92		64	6
<i>Milbourn</i>	19	51	1	1	<i>At Andover, on l. T. R.</i> <i>to Newbury and Basing-</i> <i>stoke; and through An-</i> <i>doover, on r. a T. R. to</i> <i>Stockbridge.</i>				
COVENTRY	37	54			<i>Wherwell</i>	93		68	1
CHELTENHAM TO PORTSMOUTH, through Marlborough and Winchester.					<i>Cross the Test River.</i> <i>3½ miles from Wherwell,</i> <i>on r. a T. R. to Stock-</i> <i>bridge; on l. to Basing-</i> <i>stoke; 3 miles further,</i> <i>on l. to Whitchurch and</i> <i>Basingstoke.</i>				
<i>To CIRENCESTER—as</i> <i>given in the Excursion</i> <i>Latton</i>	5	6	16	16	WINCHESTER	96		77	7
<i>Cricklade</i>	1	22	6	6	<i>At Winchester, on r. T. R.</i> <i>to Romsey and South-</i> <i>ampton; on l. to Basing-</i> <i>stoke.</i>				
<i>At Cricklade, on r. T. R.</i> <i>to Malmesbury and Wot-</i> <i>ton Bassett.</i>					<i>Cross the Itchen River;</i> <i>and on l. a T. R. to Al-</i> <i>ton.</i>				
<i>Water Eaton</i>	14	24	2	2	<i>Morested</i>	92		81	1
<i>Cold Harbour</i>	24	26	6	6	BISHOPS WALTHAM	71		88	2
<i>At Cold Harbour, on l. a</i> <i>T. R. to Highworth</i> <i>Within a mile of Swindon,</i> <i>on l. a T. R. to High-</i> <i>worth.</i>					<i>Near Wickham, on r. a</i> <i>T. R. to Romsey; on l.</i> <i>to Alton.</i>				
SWINDON	42	31			<i>Wickham</i>	42		92	4
<i>At Swindon, on r. a T. R.</i> <i>to Wotton Bassett.</i>									
<i>Near Wroughton, on r. a</i> <i>T. R. to Devizes.</i>									
<i>Wroughton</i>	24	33	4	4					
<i>Burdope—T. G.</i>	11	34	5	5					
<i>Over the Downs to</i> MARLBOROUGH	74	42	1	1					

		M	F	M	F		
<i>At Wickham on r. a T. R.</i>						To DEVIZES.	
<i>to Gosport</i>		4		96	4		
Southwick		92		99	6		
Cosham		5		100	3		
Portsea Gate							
<i>Enter Portsea Island.</i>							
<i>Hilsea—Green Post.</i>		1		101	3		
Kingstone		7		102	2		
Halfway Houses		11		103	3		
PORTSMOUTH		7		104	2		
CHELTENHAM TO CHIP- PENHAM,							
<i>through Malmesbury.</i>							
Leckhampton					2		
<i>3 miles on r. a T. R. to Glocester.</i>							
Birdlip		4		6			
<i>At Birdlip, on l. a T. R. to Cirencester; on r. to Glocester.</i>							
Cranham Wood		1		7			
Painswick		5		12			
<i>At Painswick, on l. a T. R. to Cirencester; on r. to Glocester.</i>							
STROUD		4		16			
<i>On r. a T. R. to Glocester, by Quordgeley.</i>							
MINCHING HAMPTON		9		19			
Upton Grove		4		23			
TETBURY <i>Wilts</i>		2		25			
<i>At Tetbury, on l. a T. R. to Cirencester; on r. to Bath.</i>							
MALMSBURY		4		29			
<i>At Malmesbury, on l. a T. R. to Cricklade and Cirencester; on r. to Sodbury.</i>							
Corston		21		31			
Lower Stanton St. Quin- ton		22		33			
Kington Langley		26		36			
<i>½ of a mile, on r. a T. R. to Sodbury; near Chip- penham, T. Rs. to Bath and Marshfield.</i>							
<i>Cross the Avon River to CHIPPENHAM</i>		2		38			
						To WARMINSTER.	
<i>CHIPPENHAM, as before</i>							
Derry Hill		22		40			
<i>Near Redbill, on l. a T. R. to Calne.</i>							
Red Hill		4		40			
Sandy Lane		16		42			
<i>At Sandy Lane, on r. a T. R. to Melksbam and Bath.</i>							
Chitway Heath		6		43			
<i>At Chitway Heath, on l. a T. R. to Calne.</i>							
Rowde		32		46			
<i>On r. a T. R. to Bath.</i>							
DEVIZES		2		48			
<i>CHIPPENHAM, as above</i>							
<i>Cross the Avon River, and on r. T. Rs. to Malm- sbury and Marshfield; on l. the Bath road; at a mile beyond, on r. to Bath.</i>							
Notton		9		41			
<i>Through Notton, on r. a T. R. to Bath.</i>							
Laycock		1		42			
<i>At Laycock, on l. a T. R. to Marlborough.</i>							
Benacre		14		43			
<i>Near Melksbam, on r. a T. R. to Bath and Brad- ford.</i>							
<i>Cross the Avon River.</i>							
Melksbam		14		45			
<i>Over Melksbam Marsh to Semington</i>							
<i>Through Semington, on l. a T. R. to Seend; on r. to Trowbridge.</i>		2		47			
<i>About 1½ mile further, on Steeple Ashton Common, on l. a T. R. to Laving- ton; on r. to Trow- bridge.</i>							
West Ashton		33		50			
<i>A little beyond West As- ton, on r. a T. R. to Trowbridge.</i>							

	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F
Heywood Common	1	7	52	3	bridge, on l. a T. R. to				
Westbury	1	1	53	4	East Lavington.				
Westbury Leigh	1		54	4	TROWBRIDGE	1	1	51	
At Westbury Leigh, on r.					Cross the Avon River, and				
a T. R. to Frome.					at $\frac{1}{2}$ mile on r. T. Rs. to				
Upton Scudamore	1	2	55	6	Bradford, Bath, and				
WARMINSTER	1	7	57	5	Bristol; and a little be-				
					fore Studley, on l. a T. R.				
					to Westbury.				
					Upper Studley	1		52	
					Cross the Were River.				
					Southwick	1	4	53	4
					Road Somersetshire	2	2	55	6
					At Road, on r. a T. R. to				
					Bradford.				
					Beckington	1	2	57	
					At Beckington, on l. a T. R.				
					to Warminster; on r. to				
					Bath.				
					Old Ford	1	1	58	1
					FROME	1	4	59	5

TO FROME.

To Melksham, as before			45	1					
At Melksham, on l. a T. R.									
to Devizes.									
Semington	2	6	47	7					
Through Semington, on l.									
T. Rs. to Devizes and									
Westbury.									
Hilpertown	2		49	7					
At the entrance of Trow-									

A TABLE,

Shewing at what Hour to pass the Severn, every Day in the Year, at
AUST PASSAGE.

THE WIND BEING ABOVE.

Moon's Age.	Time of Passing.	
	H. M.	H. M.
1 and 16	2 00 to	7 00
2 and 17	2 48 to	7 48
3 and 18	3 36 to	8 36
4 and 19	4 24 to	9 24
5 and 20	5 12 to	10 12
6 and 21	6 00 to	11 00
7 and 22	6 48 to	11 48
8 and 23	7 36 to	12 36
9 and 24	8 24 to	1 24
10 and 25	9 12 to	2 12
11 and 26	10 00 to	3 00
12 and 27	10 48 to	3 48
13 and 28	11 36 to	4 36
14 and 29	12 24 to	5 24
15 and 30	1 12 to	6 12

THE WIND BEING BELOW.

Moon's Age.	Time of Passing.	
	H. M.	H. M.
1 and 16	7 00 to	2 00
2 and 17	7 48 to	2 48
3 and 18	8 36 to	3 36
4 and 19	9 24 to	4 24
5 and 20	10 12 to	5 12
6 and 21	11 00 to	6 00
7 and 22	11 48 to	6 48
8 and 23	12 36 to	7 36
9 and 24	1 24 to	8 24
10 and 25	2 12 to	9 12
11 and 26	3 00 to	10 00
12 and 27	3 48 to	10 48
13 and 28	4 36 to	11 36
14 and 29	5 24 to	12 24
15 and 30	6 12 to	1 12

Example.—If the moon be 5 or 20 days old, and the wind above, there is passing from 12 minutes after 5 till 12 minutes after 10. If the wind be below, from 12 minutes after 10 to 12 minutes after 5.

When the tide is coming in, the wind being above, they pass an hour earlier at the New Passage than here; but the tide going out, and wind below, they are an hour later at the New Passage. So that this table will serve for both passages.

THE END.

